



WU DONG QIAN KUN

BOOK 02

Heavenly Silkworm Potato

EPUB CREATION BY LISA HAYES

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by

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Synopsis

The Great Yan Empire exists in a world where respect can only be earned through strength. Within this Great Yan Empire, the four great clans have always stood above the rest. Among them, a particular incident in the Lin Clan resulted in the banishment of a certain individual who went on to start his own family, in hopes of one day being recognized again by the Lin Clan, and rejoining them...

Hailing from a banished family of the Great Lin Clan, when Lin Dong was very young, he watched, powerless, as his talented father was easily crushed and crippled by the overwhelming genius of the great Lin Clan, Lin Langtian.

With a despairing father, a heartbroken grandfather, and a suffering family, ever since that fateful day, Lin Dong has been driven by a deep purpose; to take revenge on the man who had taken everything and more from his family.

Armed with nothing but willpower and determination, join Lin Dong as he unknowingly discovers a destiny greater than he could ever hope to imagine when he stumbles upon a mysterious stone talisman...

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Chapter 101: Arrival of the Blood Cloth Sect

Immense pain!

When Lin Dong's body hopped into that area where two large crystal millstones interacted, a massive unstoppable force immediately enveloped his body. Due to that terrifying force, Lin Dong immediately lost control of his body. Then, he started to sense that his body was breaking apart inch by inch!

When his body broke down, an unspeakably immense pain swiftly followed!

The two giant crystal millstones continued to rotate at a slow and steady pace, as if nothing in this world could stop it.

Lin Dong's body was completely powerless in the face of the crystal millstones. The intense pain caused his body to tightly curl up. Visible cracks could be seen all across his body as sections of his skin split apart.

While experiencing that immense pain first-hand, Lin Dong finally understood why the small marten had looked at him in a peculiar manner when it heard that he wanted to use these Mind Millstones to train his Mental Energy. It was because the pain was at such an intense level!

Lin Dong tightly gritted his teeth as he utilized every ounce of his energy to maintain his last sliver of consciousness, preventing himself from being drowned by the flooding pain.

“Ka ka ka...”

As he forcefully hung on, more cracks began to emerge on Lin Dong's body. Moments later, his body vibrated violently before it actually exploded and turned into numerous Mental Spots...

His Mental body was forcefully blown to bits by the Mind Millstones.

Just as Lin Dong's Mental Body was blown apart, a white light suddenly emerged from the two crystal millstones and wrapped itself around the Mental Spots.

A trace of Lin Dong's consciousness was floating in these Mental Spots. Hence he could sense the presence of a mysterious energy contained within that white light. Thanks to that energy, those Mental Spots that were scattered actually started to converge towards his consciousness!

“Buzz buzz!”

As more and more Mental Spots began to gather, Lin Dong's Mental Body was actually restored!

When he witnessed this scene, a look of awe surfaced in Lin Dong's eyes. However, before he could find the time to marvel at this miraculous mind millstones, the immense pain that was enough to drive a man crazy attacked once again!

“Boom!”

A distance from the crystal millstones, the small marten watched Lin Dong’s Mental Body being forcefully blown apart again as a hissing sound involuntarily left its lips. With its paws in front of its chest, his attitude was nonchalant and akin to watching a show: “Hehe, grandfather marten wants to know how many times can that kid endure...”

Previously, when the Stone Talisman was in its hands, it had also tried to utilize this so-called mind millstones. Even till now, that intense pain caused some of its hair to stand on end. Though that object could indeed boost one’s Mental Energy, it was not something that any ordinary man could endure.

Under the faint glow of the space, the two crystal millstones continued their slow rotation at a steady pace. As they rotated, streams of terrifying energy were poured into the youth who was standing at the intersection of the millstones.

“Bang... Bang...”

A soft explosion sound caused by the eruption of the Mental Body echoed across the area. However, each time this sound echoed out, the small marten’s paws would tremble.

The crystal millstones slowly rotated as it continued its never-ending cycle. Below the crystal millstones, a powerless figure utilized all his determination as he was continuously blown apart

and reformed time after time in order to strengthen himself!

“The eighth time...”

Unknowingly, the slightly sadistic glint in small marten’s eyes had dissipated as it stared at that youth in awe. It could clearly feel that the latter had already passed his breaking point and he was only holding on through sheer willpower.

“Bang...”

Another clear and loud echo reverberated about the space. The awe in small marten’s eyes grew thicker. However, the awe in its eyes slowly turned into a serious expression after another echo sounded out after a long while.

Ten times.

Lin Dong had endured ten cycles of being exploded and reformed again in the crystal millstones...

“This kid is truly tenacious...” the small marten lowered the claws in front of its chest. For the first time, it realised that the boy had something that made him stand out from the masses.

While the small marten sighed in its heart, an almost transparent figure slowly floated out from the crystal millstones before it stopped in front of the former. That extremely weary face was indeed Lin Dong’s.

Right now, even though Lin Dong had left the mind millstones, he could still feel remnants of the intense pain inside his consciousness.

“Not bad kid. You managed to endure ten cycles on your first attempt...” As it looked at the feeble Lin Dong, the small marten smiled as it said.

Lin Dong barely managed to return a smile. However, even though he felt extraordinarily weak and exhausted, he could faintly sense that right now, his Mental Energy seemed slightly more potent than before. Looks like these crystal millstones would really help boost one’s Mental Energy.

“Right now, you have reached your limit and should not train any further. It’s best to return home and rest. Besides, grandfather marten suggests that you procure some Mental Energy-nourishing Elixirs as it would greatly amplify the effects of your training. If not, your Mental Energy may be damaged due to poor health and this may lead to problems in the future.” The small marten casually muttered.

“Yes, thank you.” Lin Dong earnestly nodded his head. Although this small marten’s origins remained a mystery, it seemed very knowledgeable. Therefore, it was only sensible to heed to its advice.

The small marten waved its paws, without further ado, it immediately turned into a flash of light and disappeared into the

darkness. Lin Dong did not seem to mind, with a nudge of his consciousness, he left this Spiritual Domain.

...

Inside his room, Lin Dong opened his eyes and felt a pang of dizziness set in immediately. Shaking his head, he let out a bitter laugh. Even though his physical body did not incur any damage during that training, his Mental Energy was severely strained.

As he gently sighed, a strand of Lin Dong's mind slipped into his Niwan Palace, only to see that his Destiny Soul Symbol was now eerily dark. However, it's form seemed to have solidified slightly. It seems like that was the result of his prior training inside the mind millstones.

“Indeed, I will need some Elixirs that can rejuvenate my Mental Energy in order to maximize my training. Let me see if I can buy some Elixirs in the next few days...”

When he saw this scene, Lin Dong thought to himself as he nodded his head. Then, he stretched his body, feeling the weariness set in, before he fell asleep almost instantaneously.

...

In the following days, Lin Dong practically entered the Stone Talisman Spiritual Domain daily to utilize the mind millstones to temper his Mental Energy. Even though the training was truly

torturous, right now, this was Lin Dong's only way to swiftly boost his Mental Energy.

With regards to the Elixirs that could rejuvenate one's Mental Energy, it was truly too rare. Even though Lin Dong searched the entire Qingyang Town bazaar, he could at most procure two Grade 2 Elixirs. Nonetheless, it was still better than nothing.

As Lin Dong tirelessly trained, seven days passed in the blink of an eye.

In these seven days, Lin Dong's Mental Energy training made good progress as his Destiny Soul Symbol increasingly materialized. In fact, it now looked like a symbol with substance. However, there was still quite a way to go for him to advance to the 2nd Seal Symbol Master level.

Fortunately, Lin Dong had already expected this outcome. After all, if it was so easy to advance to 2nd Seal Symbol Master, then Symbol Masters would be worthless...

While Lin Dong was training, the Lin Family began to secretly transfer some younger generation members away in order to safeguard against the worst case scenario.

As days passed, the atmosphere in the Lin Family grew increasingly tense. Meanwhile, the rest of the factions in Qingyang Town also began to turn their attention towards the Lin Family. Some of them were delighted at their misfortune, some of them were worried for them, while others were merely casual observers.

...

In a forest deep within the Lin Family estate, Lin Dong's tightly shut eyes slowly opened. With a flick of his mind, a "Materialized Spirit Needle" swiftly formed in front of him.

The current Lin Dong had completely mastered this so-called "Materialized Spirit Needle." However, this was merely an ordinary Secret Spirit Skill. Therefore, its power was not truly astounding.

"It's been ten days..."

As that "Materialized Needle" began to dissipate, Lin Dong's facial expression turned increasingly serious. In these ten days, thanks to that mind millstones, his Mental Energy had grown tremendously. However, he had yet to become a 2nd Seal Symbol Master. According to Lin Dong's prediction, with the help of the mind millstones, he would need another two to three months time before he could advance to the 2nd Seal level.

Yet, time was now of essence. If he failed to advance to the 2nd Seal level, he could never hope to match up against Wei Tong, who was at Advanced Yuan Dan Stage.

"I must think of a way to delay them..."

Lin Dong softly sighed. This critical situation caused him a major

headache.

“Eh?”

Just as Lin Dong sighed, he suddenly felt the ground began to tremble slightly. Promptly, his facial expression changed. As his toe pushed off the ground, he immediately leapt to the top of a nearby tree before his Mental Energy began to spread out. His fist abruptly clenched tightly.

Within Lin Dong's area of perception, a sea of red suddenly began to emerge just outside of Qingyang Town's entrance. Like a typhoon, they seemed extremely formidable as they swept towards the Lin Family's position.

“Blood Cloth Sect...”

As he stared at the army of red-clothed murderous troops, Lin Dong softly sighed. They had finally come...

“The Blood Cloth Sect has arrived. Lin Family members, prepare to die!”

As that giant army charged towards the Lin Family, a fierce shout echoed out with the aid of a thick Yuan Power. Like a thunder, it rang clearly in the entire Qingyang Town!

Chapter 102: Wager

As that thunderous and menacing roar spread across the bustling Qingyang Town, the entire town turned silent. Promptly, countless gazes were directed towards the Lin Family residence.

“The Blood Cloth Sect has finally arrived...”

“The Lin Family is really plagued with misfortune. After they handled the Lei and Xie Families, another more vicious wolf arrived...”

“Sigh...”

All around the Lin Family manor were red clothed troops. They were so numerous and tightly crowded together that not even a trickle of water could seep through. That piercingly bright red color and their menacing aura was truly a sight to behold.

At the head of the group was a man seated upon his horse. This man was fairly muscular and his skin was quite tanned. As he stood quietly, he looked akin to an iron tower. Meanwhile, a suffocating atmosphere slowly emitted from his body, anyone could tell that this man was not to be belittled.

The man was dressed in red robes and wore an ice-cold expression on his face that was not the slightest bit readable. His fiery red eyebrows caused him to look even more menacing. This man was the head of the Blood Cloth Sect, an Advanced Yuan Dan Stage expert that was fairly renowned even in Yan City, Wei Tong!

Beside Wei Tong was a rather scrawny elderly man. Judging by the faint Yuan Power undulating around his body, this man should be the member of the Blood Cloth Sect that had reached Initial Yuan Dan Stage.

“Hehe, our Blood Cloth Sect has personally arrived to your doorstep. Yet a small Lin Family has chosen to shut us out. Do you really think that our Blood Cloth Sect will hesitate to destroy you?” That eagle-nosed elderly man released a weird laughter as he glared at the Lin Family’s manor, a vicious expression on his face.

“Creak!”

After that man laughed, the tightly shut gate of the Lin Family manor slowly began to open. Soon after, a large group of Lin Family guards gushed out as they stared nervously at the massive formation in front of them.

“This elderly Lin Zhentian, patriarch of the Lin Family, greets Master Wei Tong.” Lin Zhentian led Lin Xiao and the rest out as he clasped his hands and greeted the red-robed man on horseback.

“I did not expect to see an Initial Yuan Dan Stage practitioner in this tiny Qingyang Town..”

Wei Tong’s cold gaze was fixed onto Lin Zhentian. Soon after, he waved his hands and said: “My Blood Cloth Sect’s motive should be clear to your Lin Family. Gu Ying was the deputy head of my Blood Cloth Sect. Since he died at the hands of your Lin Family, an eye

for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, evil for evil and blood for blood. You should know what to do.”

Lin Zhentian’s expression slightly changed as he gritted his teeth and replied: “Master Wei Tong, that day, it was mainly a dispute between my Lin Family and the Lei and Xie Families. Deputy head Gu Ying was the one who interfered...”

“I did not come here to listen to an explanation of what happened.” Wei Tong interrupted in an indifferent manner. Soon after, his gaze became even icier as he glared at Lin Zhentian and said: “I’ve said it before, I am here to avenge him. Thus do not bother to explain these details to me.”

Wei Tong’s tone was rather flat and controlled, but within that tone, was a wild aggressiveness. With regards to this, many of the Lin Family members felt rather indignant, yet, they did not dare to voice out their grievances.

Lin Zhentian’s facial expression fluctuated. Moments later, he replied in a low voice: “Master Wei Tong. Please get to the point. What should my Lin Family do in order to resolve this issue?”

Blood Cloth Sect had utilized all their troops on this trip. However, they only surrounded the manor and did not begin their attack immediately. Their actions evidently hinted that they had other designs. Lin Zhentian was a wise man. Hence, he naturally guessed that the Blood Cloth Sect was definitely planning to take advantage of them.

“You are a wise man.” When he heard Lin Zhentian’s words, a smile finally emerged on Wei Tong’s face. His pearly white teeth caused everyone to feel a chill: “Hand over the Steel Wood Manor and Gu Ying’s murderer, then, if your Lin Family submits to my Blood Cloth Sect, I can forget about Gu Ying’s matter.”

When they heard these words, Lin Zhentian’s and the rest’s hearts sunk. They expected the Blood Cloth Sect to rip them off, however, they had clearly underestimated their appetite.

“Master Wei Tong, could you be slightly more gracious?” Lin Zhentian voice sounded somewhat dry as he asked.

“Heh heh, Lin Zhentian, don’t push your limits. Our Master has already shown extreme gracefulness when he did not immediately destroy your Lin Family. If you continue yapping, your Lin Family will be completely erased!” Beside Wei Tong, that elderly man with a cruel look somewhat condescendingly said in a high-pitch voice.

“The real reason why you guys did not straightaway exterminate our Lin Family was because you guys understood that there will be a hefty price to pay!” Before that elderly man’s words could fade away, a voice subsequently echoed out. Promptly, a figure darted out from the Lin Family and landed on the manor wall. This person was Lin Dong.

“You must be that Lin Family boy who killed Gu Ying?” Wei Tong’s eyes immediately fixed onto Lin Dong. The former’s eyes slightly narrowing, a cold glint emerging as he slowly said.

“You overestimate your Lin Family.”

“Master Wei Tong, believe me. If we really fought, our Lin Family will most likely be destroyed. However, the elderly man beside you will probably die here as well. Competition in Yan City is fierce, if you were to consecutively lose your right and left hand men, I think it will be a major blow to your Blood Cloth Sect.” Lin Dong stared at Wei Tong as he solemnly said.

“You!”

When he heard these words, that sinister looking elderly man was enraged. Just as he planned to shout, Wei Tong waved his hand and halted him. Promptly, he chuckled: “So boy, according to you, our Blood Cloth Sect will not dare to do anything against your Lin Family?”

“If your Blood Cloth Sect wishes to destroy my Lin Family, you could certainly do so. However, there will be a hefty price to pay. Surely Master Wei Tong must know this as well. Besides, even if you could destroy our Lin Family today, I am confident that I can escape. In the future, Master Wei Tong will perhaps have countless sleepless nights...” Lin Dong’s gaze met Wei Tong’s as he said.

“Oh?”

Wei Tong was shocked as he stared at Lin Dong. In the next instance, a cold murderous glint flashed in his eyes. He heavily stomped the ground and like an arrow, he dashed towards the latter.

“Boy, do you think that you afford to be so arrogant in front of me just because you killed Gu Ying? If you hope to escape, I shall kill you right now!”

Wei Tong's actions had gone against everyone's expectations. Nobody anticipated that the head of the Blood Cloth Sect would actually suddenly attack a youngster!

Lin Zhentian quickly regained his wits. Immediately, his eyes reddened. Yet, just before he could intercept Wei Tong, that sinister looking elderly man appeared in front of him and blocked him.

“Clang clang!”

This sudden development caused troops on both parties to immediately draw their weapons. Instantly, the atmosphere turned extremely tense, both parties on the brink of a fight.

Lin Dong calmly looked at Wei Tong, who was now menacingly dashing towards him. The latter's reaction did not surprise him. However, he did not plan to fight with Wei Tong right now. After all, he knew that based on his current strength, if he fought directly, he did not stand a chance against an Advanced Yuan Dan Stage opponent.

Therefore, when Wei Tong dashed over, Lin Dong's body also swiftly floated backwards. Then, several black shadows flew out from his sleeves, however, these black shadows were not directed

towards the former, but rather Lin Dong's feet. As he gently tapped off with his toes, he soared into the air. After several jumps, he actually forced his way into the skies. This scene caused several people in the surroundings to gasp.

Walking through the skies. Even an elite Yuan Dan Stage practitioner could not accomplish this feat.

Lin Dong leaped in the skies and easily avoided Wei Tong's offensive. Meanwhile, the latter had no choice but to stop. With a dark expression on his face, he finally understood why Lin Dong could confidently claim that he would be able to escape. If he utilized this method, it was indeed true that no one could obstruct him.

When Lin Zhentian and the rest saw Lin Dong using this method to render Wei Tong helpless, they heaved a sigh of relief in their hearts.

Lin Dong's figure slowly landed onto a nearby tree. He looked down from above at Wei Tong and said: "Master Wei Tong, if your Blood Cloth Sect destroys our Lin Family, I will escape and train in secret. However, while I am training myself, your Blood Cloth Sect will perhaps feel very worried."

"You dare to threaten me?"

Wei Tong's extreme anger turned into laughter. This was the first time he was threatened by a youth. However, ultimately he felt a little troubled. After all, he could not easily brush this threat

aside. The fact that Lin Dong could kill Gu Ying at such a tender age was testament to his immense potential. Against such an opponent, he must quickly dispose of him. If not, he would be a major threat in the future.

Lin Dong was calm. Right now, his Lin Family was unable to contend against the Blood Cloth Sect. Similarly, no one in his Lin Family could beat Wei Tong. Therefore, he could only utilize this method to somewhat restrain Wei Tong.

“Master Wei Tong, do you dare to have a wager with me?” Lin Dong suddenly asked.

“What wager?” Wei Tong’s eyes slightly narrowed as he sneered.

“In three month, we shall have a death match. If you win, not only will the Steel Wood Manor be yours, but all our Lin Family members will also submit to you. However, if I win, then we shall forget about Gu Ying’s matter. How about it?” Lin Dong slowly said.

When Lin Dong finished speaking, several people were shocked. Even Lin Zhentian’s and the rest’s facial expressions changed slightly. They turned and looked at each other but were at a loss for words. After all, if they could not survive today, then the entire Lin Family will be ruined. At that time, the Steel Wood Manor would be completely worthless to them...

If they were able to delay them for three months, that would definitely be a positive development. As to whether Lin Dong could

really defeat Wei Tong in three months, perhaps only he himself knew...

“You wish to have a death match with me?” Wei Tong was evidently startled by this wager. Although Lin Dong had killed Gu Ying, that did not indicate that he had the qualifications to match up against him.

Advanced Yuan Dan Stage could match up against a 3rd Seal Symbol Master! 3rd Seal Symbol Masters was a rarity even in Yan City. He absolutely refused to believe that Lin Dong could reach this level!

“I wonder if Master Wei Tong dares to accept?” Lin Dong smiled.

“Boy, you are just trying to buy some time right?” Wei Tong chuckled.

Lin Dong declined to comment as he stared at Wei Tong and said: “You have two choices, you can get our Steel Wood Manor and our entire Lin Family to submit to you without suffering any losses. Or, if you choose to fight now, our Lin Family will battle fiercely against you, and finally, I will escape.”

When he heard the last three words, Wei Tong’s face involuntarily twitched. These words were typically an embarrassing admission, however, when Lin Dong seriously said them, it caused Wei Tong to be slightly troubled... After all, this was indeed the scenario that he dreaded the most.

He was willing to pay the hefty price in order to destroy the Lin Family. However, he was afraid of a venomous snake lurking in the dark. Especially since this venomous snake was extremely talented. This would cause him countless sleepless nights in the future!

If he wants to exterminate them, he must thoroughly destroy them. When one wants to get rid of weeds, one must completely remove all roots!

However, the current him was not fully confident that he was able to remove this “root”, Lin Dong!

Wei Tong eyes rapidly flickered as he carefully weighed his options.

When they saw his expression, everyone else quietened down. All their gazes turned towards Wei Tong. His decision today, will determine whether they will be a massive bloodshed or whether they will choose to retreat...

“Master Wei Tong, what is your choice?” A long while later, Lin Dong softly asked.

Wei Tong slowly lifted his head as he stared daggers at Lin Dong. Promptly, he chuckled. With a flick of his body, he immediately jumped back onto his horse.

“Fine, I shall accept his wager. However, three months is too long, I shall give you two months. In two months, we will have a

death match in Yan City's Duel Arena. I will be waiting for you there. However, over this period of time, your Lin Family is forbidden to leave Qingyang Town. My spies from the Blood Cloth Sect will be constantly monitoring you. If you dare to leave, my Blood Cloth Sect will massacre every one of you!

“Let's go!”

That Wei Tong was a decisive man. With a shout, he turned his horse around and left. Leading the pack, he headed towards the outskirts of Qingyang Town. Behind him, the rest of the Blood Cloth Sect troops also transformed into a tidal wave as they swiftly followed.

As he stood atop the tree, Lin Dong gazed at the rapidly departing troops. His facial expression slowly turned solemn. Two months...

In two month, he must reach the 2nd Seal Symbol Master level, or else a great catastrophe will befall his Lin Family!

Chapter 103: Temporarily Leaving

“Rumble!

Outside of Qingyang Town, a red river that gave out a menacing aura swiftly flowed by, causing dust clouds to form in its wake.

“Sect Leader, that boy is clearly stalling for time. What need was there to agree to his wager?” At the front of the group, the sinister-looking elderly man was somewhat unsatisfied as he glanced at the town behind them while talking to Wei Tong who was beside him.

“The Lin Family’s strength had somewhat exceeded my expectations. An Initial Yuan Dan Stage plus a young Symbol Master who could have possibly reached the 2nd Seal level. If they really went at us with their lives on the line, even if our Blood Cloth Sect could exterminate the Lin Family, we would pay a huge price.” Wei Tong had a chilly expression on his face as he icily said.

“Currently, our Blood Cloth Sect is contesting for territory with the Iron Mountain Sect. It would not be worth it for us to sustain too huge a loss here.”

“It just so happens that I can settle the Iron Mountain Sect matter in these two months. At that time, how can the Lin Family possibly escape?”

“In addition...that boy needs to be killed. Or else there will be no end to our troubles in the future. From that short exchange previously, I can tell that although I am able to defeat him, he also

has the ability to escape. If by any chance the scenario he spoke of played out and he finds a place to hide himself to train in secret, we would never again rest easy.”

“That boy knew this, thus he dared to suggest this wager.” The elderly practitioner furrowed his eyebrows and said: “However, is Sect Leader not afraid that the situation might turn for the worse over this period?”

“If we let him escape, then the situation will be even more unfavorable.” A cold light shimmered in Wei Tong’s eyes. Moments later, he chuckled and said: “Do not worry, when the time comes, it would not be easy for him to escape from the Duel Arena using his Mental Energy. Without this card, he is fated to die.”

“And once this brat is dead, won’t the Lin Family and the Steel Wood Manor be free pickings?”

“Sect Leader is wise.” Upon hearing these words, that elderly man also laughed as he buttered up Wei Tong.

Wei Tong smiled. Without further words, he raised his horse whip and led the huge group as they rushed back to Yan City.

...

“Dong-er, are you certain of beating Wei Tong two months later?”

In a room within the Lin Family estate, Lin Zhentian's gaze was fixed onto the youngster who stood in the rear as he asked, a tinge of worry in his voice.

"I will have to try." Lin Dong did not give an overly confident answer. An Advanced Yuan Dan Stage expert was no small fry.

"Sigh, you did not do anything wrong. If things did not go this way today, the Lin Family would definitely be unable to avoid disaster." Lin Zhentian smiled bitterly as he sighed. The Blood Cloth Sect had mustered a humongous force today. If it were not for the fact that he had already successfully advanced to Initial Yuan Dan Stage and the matter of Lin Dong killing Gu Ying. Even with Lin Dong's witty words, they would be unable to avoid a complete extermination.

"Two months..." To one side, Lin Xiao and the rest had complicated expressions on their faces as they secretly sighed.

"During these two months, I will stop training and instead concentrate on refining two Pure Yuan Pills for Dong-er." Lin Zhentian muttered to himself for a while before he finally declared.

"Pure Yuan Pills?"

After hearing these words, Lin Xiao and the rest were slightly shocked. The so-called Pure Yuan Pills were actually condensed from the highest purity Yuan Power in a Yuan Dan Stage

practitioner's body. It was similar to pills and were termed "Pure Yuan Pills" by the masses. This item had a huge effect on one's cultivation and was many times stronger than Yang Yuan Pills.

However, condensing a Pure Yuan Pill was also far more difficult than a Yang Yuan Pill. It is said that only those practitioners who had reached Yuan Dan Stage had the ability to compress Yuan Power into a pill. Even so, they still needed a rather long time to do so.

For someone like Lin Zhentian who was currently at Initial Yuan Dan Stage, condensing a "Pure Yuan Pill" would probably take about a month. Furthermore, during this month, his cultivation progress would become very minimal. Afterall, all Yuan Power that he took in would be compressed into a pill. Where would he find any more Yuan Power for his personal absorption?

Yet, though there was quite a cost to bear, this "Pure Yuan Pill" had a rather substantial effect on cultivation indeed. Think about it, a whole month's worth of Yuan Power a Yuan Dan Stage practitioner usually uses for cultivation. Even if one was unable to fully absorb all of it, it would likely still be worth at least ten days of tough training.

Thus, the price of a "Pure Yuan Pill" was crazily high. One Pure Yuan Pill could probably be exchanged for a hundred Yang Yuan Pills. This means that a Yang Yuan Pill was worth one thousand Yang Yuan Stones, practically half a month's haul of the current Lin Family.

However, because condensing "Pure Yuan Pills" consumed too

much time and energy, unless one really needed to exchange it for some item or was in a dire need of money, most Yuan Dan Stage experts did not find the prospect of creating a Pure Yuan Pill from the Yuan Power in their bodies very appealing.

This was also why Lin Xiao and the rest were surprised when they heard Lin Zhentian was planning to give up two months of cultivation to instead condense “Pure Yuan Pills” for Lin Dong.

“There is really no loss for me to give up these two months of cultivation. I’ve only just recently advanced to Initial Yuan Dan Stage, it would probably take at least a few years before I can reach Advanced Yuan Dan Stage. Since this is so, why shouldn’t I assist Lin Dong in his training. His potential is after all in a different league when compared to this old sack of bones.” Lin Zhentian waved his hands and said.

As Lin Dong gazed at the old man’s face, warmth blossomed in his heart. Yet he still shook his head and smiled: “Grandfather, there is no need. I plan to go to Yan City during these two months.

“Yan City?” Upon hearing these words, Lin Zhentian and the rest were startled.

“Yes.”

Lin Dong nodded his head. He currently needed too many things. Although the effect of utilising the Mental Millstones to train his Mental Energy was not bad, he lacked Mental Energy recovery Elixirs. These type of Elixirs were rarely seen. In a place like

Qingyang Town, it was very difficult to obtain. Therefore, he had no choice but to leave for Yan City. As long as you possessed sufficient funds, you would be able to obtain most of the things you needed there.

Elixirs, Secret Spirit Skills, Secret Arts, Martial Arts and much more. Of course, on the condition that you had enough “Yang Yuan Pills”...

With regards to “Yang Yuan Pills”, Lin Dong had made extremely ample preparations over this period. After all, the fact that he was guarding a vein of Yang Yuan Stones combined with the refining efficiency of the Stone Talisman, it would be rather difficult to stay poor. Of course, these were all due to the Stone Talisman, thus he did not reveal any of it to Lin Xiao and the rest.

Even though the current Lin Dong had a gift for Mental Energy, the Secret Spirit Skills that he practised was limited to the “Materialized Spirit Needle” he obtained from Gu Ying. As for Secret Arts, it was even more embarrassing. Qing Yuan Art was completely unable to satisfy his cultivation needs. These things needed to be replaced and Qingyang Town was clearly unable to provide what he needed.

“You’ve already grown up and can make your own decisions. Since you are going to Yan City, you should have already made your own plans. This old sack of bones has nothing more to say except that you need to remember that Yan City cannot be compared to Qingyang Town. You need to be especially careful there. When do you intend to leave?” Lin Zhentian muttered to himself for a while, in the end, he did not object.

“I will leave tomorrow. After all, I only have two months.” Lin Dong chuckled.

“Okay.” Lin Zhentian lightly nodded his head and took out a low-grade Qiankun Bag. Due to the Yang Yuan Stone Mining Lode, they had now started using these things which they had seen as luxurious in the past.

“There are one hundred Yang Yuan Pills in here, it could be considered to be the entire savings of our Lin Family over this period. Take it, in Yan City, you can do nothing without “Yang Yuan Pills”.”

When he saw the Qiankun Bag that was being handed over and the earnest expression in the old man’s gaze, Lin Dong’s nose felt slightly bitter. These one hundred Yang Yuan Pills were an enormous sum to the Lin Family. In the past, they would have to sell off a few of their manors before they could gather such a sum.

“Grandfather, don’t worry. I will not let the Lin Family be ruined at the Blood Cloth Sect’s hands.” Though Lin Dong’s secret personal funds were ample, he knew that he could not reject this bag, or else Lin Zhentian and the rest would not let him go to Yan City alone. Thus he immediately received it and softly replied.

Lin Zhentian chuckled as he patted Lin Dong’s shoulders. Then, he suddenly said: “Don’t carry too much on your shoulders. Remember, if you feel that you are still unable to match up to Wei Tong after two months, ignore the wager. As long as you live,

there will be hope. A moment of integrity does not make you a hero.”

Lin Dong silently nodded, the fists within his sleeves slowly clenching tightly. If he did not go, the Lin Family would definitely face a calamity.

“Over this period, our Lin Family had also established some bases in Yan City. If there are any problems, go to those places. Your father will fill you in on the details later.”

“Two months later, we will also go to the Yan City Duel Arena. Like I said before, if you are not certain, don’t appear. As long as you live, vengeance will always be possible in the future.”

“.....”

Lin Dong quietly listened as he gazed at the old man who had suddenly become quite naggy. In the end, when the old man felt somewhat tired, he waved his hand and everyone slowly left the room.

...

The next day, Lin Dong led a horse out of the Lin Family estate’s main entrance. He did not intend to bring anyone else along and even Little Flame was temporarily left behind in Qingyang Town. Over this period, he did not plan to let anything hinder his training.

“Lin Dong-ge, take care.” At Lin Dong’s side, Qing Tan’s eyes were somewhat red as she looked at the former and softly said.

Lin Dong smiled and rubbed Qing Tan’s tiny head before lifting his own to look at Lin Zhentian and the rest who were standing at the entrance: “Grandfather, Father, let us meet again in two months!”

After saying these words, he no longer tarried and straightaway mounted the horse. Raising his horse whip, the two transformed into a cloud of yellow dust as they swiftly galloped away from Qingyang Town.

Gazing at the back of the youngster who was swiftly disappearing into the distance, Lin Zhentian and the rest sighed. Now, they could only pray in their hearts that Lin Dong would be able to achieve sufficient progress to contend against Wei Tong within these two months...

Chapter 104: Thousand Gold Auction House

It was already afternoon by the time Lin Dong reached Yan City. After entering the city, he found a secluded inn to rest and in the meantime, took the opportunity to ask around about the various happenings in Yan City. After all, since he was new, Lin Dong was generally not familiar with the city.

Within a room in the inn, Lin Dong sat on the bed with his eyes tightly shut. A long time later, he slowly opened his eyes as a pale shade of white colored his face. Just before this, he had entered into the Stone Talisman Spiritual Domain and utilised the Mind Millstone to cultivate his Mental Energy.

Even though he had experienced that intense pain multiple times, it was still extremely unbearable for him.

Lin Dong removed a jade bottle from the Qiankun Bag nestled on his lap. Within the jade bottle was a pale white pill. It was refined from the Elixirs he had purchased in Qingyang Town and had a slight restorative effect on his Mental Energy. However, as he had already consumed several of them and this was his last remaining pill.

“Looks like I’ll have to go to the “Thousand Gold Auction House” tomorrow to see if I can find some Mental Energy recovery elixirs...” As he gazed at that lonely pill, Lin Dong softly sighed. It was rather easy to find ordinary Elixirs, yet this type of Mental Energy recovery elixirs were extremely rare. He had thoroughly searched throughout Qingyang Town, yet he only managed to find a meagre few. Furthermore, their quality were all rather low.

The “Thousand Gold Auction House” Lin Dong had mentioned was the biggest auction house in Yan City. This auction house was owned by one of the top three factions in Yan City, the Thousand Gold Association, and its scale and reputation was on a completely different level from Qingyang Town’s bazaar. He would surely be able come across some of the Elixirs that he now urgently needed there.

With these thoughts in mind, Lin Dong lightly exhaled before lying down to sleep.

The next day, Lin Dong got up very early. He slightly tidied himself up before exiting the inn and made a beeline for the “Thousand Gold Auction House” at the centre of the city.

The “Thousand Gold Auction House” was famous not only in Yan City, but even in the entire Tiandu Province. After wandering around for half a day, Lin Dong finally arrived at the vicinity of the “Thousand Gold Auction House”.

When he first caught sight of the “Thousand Gold Auction House”, Lin Dong could clearly feel its majestic atmosphere. Compared to this, Qingyang Town’s bazaar was indeed too shameful.

The densely packed crowds looked like ants as they constantly streamed into the “Thousand Gold Auction House”. Such a formidable popularity was comparable only to the time when the “Qingyang Town Hunt” was held, and even so, the latter would

still find itself lacking.

Lin Dong stood outside the auction house and rubbed his face, trying hard not to let himself look too much like a country bumpkin. Finally, he laughed at himself before he squeezed his way into the crowd, walking towards the inner part of the auction house.

The Thousand Gold Auction House was split into outer and inner sections. Though the outer section was the largest, the items exchanged there were not considered very valuable. This was because most of the better items were auctioned off in the inner section. Of course, one would require substantial funds to successfully bid and acquire one's desired item there.

Lin Dong walked about in the dazzling outer section of the auction house. Here, even a Grade 4 Elixir was not considered rare. As for Elixirs with Mental Energy recovery properties, Lin Dong also saw a few. However, most of them about Grade 3 quality.

If it were the past, this kind Grade 3 Elixir with the ability of recovering Mental Energy would be a passable find and be put to use. However, time was a rather pressing issue for Lin Dong now. Swiftly reaching the 2nd Seal Symbol Master stage was his highest priority. Therefore, the Elixirs that he chose needed to be as good as possible. And so, after taking a stroll around the entire outer section and not finding any Elixir of interest, he straight-away headed towards the inner section of the auction house.

At the entrance of the inner section of the auction house, Lin Dong was stopped by a guard. After being informed by the latter

that he needed to hand over ten Yang Yuan Stones, Lin Dong's face involuntarily turned black. A ten Yang Yuan Stone fee just to enter, this Thousand Gold Association was truly outrageous.

After cursing in his mind, Lin Dong had no choice but to pay ten Yang Yuan Stones. Only then, did the guard withdraw. Just as Lin Dong planned to enter, a sudden disturbance was suddenly heard from behind.

When he sensed this disturbance, Lin Dong could not help but somewhat curiously turn his head. Soon after, a path opened up in the crowd as a few figures appeared in his sights.

Among these figures, there was one which was particularly attention grabbing. Naturally, it was a woman dressed in a red gown. Her skin was white as snow and on her peach flower-like face, hung a graceful and magnanimous smile, an especially touching sight. She looked no different from a woman at the prime of her youth, yet her ample curves and graceful posture caused her to give out a mature charm that captivated others.

To her side, a tall woman clothed in green followed. This woman was also extremely beautiful. Like the former, she had an extremely beautiful face, however, she seemed a little more indifferent than the former. Therefore, in comparison, she seemed a little unripe. Nonetheless, she had a distinct aura and definitely surpassed Xie Yingying from the Xie Family.

The two women were both extreme beauties. As they walked together, they looked just like a pair of flowers. Having appeared together in this place, they naturally drew the attention of the

crowd. From the heated yet respectful gazes from the crowd, it seemed likely that these two women stemmed from a remarkable background.

“Manager Su and the little miss are becoming more and more beautiful, the two of them practically look like sisters...”

“Heh heh, I wonder which lucky guy will marry them in future. Such beauties, they are simply...”

“Are you courting death? Don’t you know how scary Manager Su is?”

“I am just saying... It’s just empty words...”

When he heard the guards at the auction talking among themselves, Lin Dong’s interest was slightly piqued. It seems like these two girls belong to the Thousand Gold Association. His gaze swept across them once before he decided to look away. After all, he was not too interested in their identities. Right now, his primary concern was to obtain some Elixirs that can restore his Mental Energy. Therefore, his footsteps no longer paused as he walked into the inner section of the auction house.

When Lin Dong entered the auction house, it seemed like there were already several people there. As he turned to glance at the crowd inside the auction, he softly muttered to himself before he took out a straw hat from his Qiankun Bag. Placing it over his head, he found a spot near the center before he sat down.

Even though this place was not Qingyang Town and no one should recognize him, he did not want to attract any unnecessary attention. Thus, it was best to be a little cautious.

The auction had not begun yet when Lin Dong took his seat. However, he was in no hurry. Closing his eyes, he silently rested as he awaited the beginning of the auction.

After closing his eyes to rest for a while, a commotion suddenly erupted behind him. This time, Lin Dong did not even have to turn his head as he had deduced that it was likely brought on by those two women from before. Hence, he could not be bothered to turn his head. However, he suddenly felt the Destiny Soul Symbol in his Niwan Palace gently vibrate.

This discovery caused Lin Dong to be slightly shocked. Promptly, he turned his head towards the back as his eyes swept across those two women before they finally stopped at an elderly man standing beside them, dressed in grey robes.

“Oh, it’s him...”

When Lin Dong saw that grey robed elderly man, he exclaimed in his heart. This was none other than Grand Master Ruo, who had previously given Lin Dong the first three chapters of “Divine Movement Chapter”. Therefore, the reason why his Mental Energy undulated was likely because he and Grand Master Ruo both practised “Divine Movement Chapter”.

As he stared at that elderly man in grey, a glint flashed in Lin

Dong's eyes. However, he did not plan to go over and slowly retracted his gaze. Even though he owed Grand Master Ruo a debt of gratitude, because of the Mysterious Stone Talisman, he always felt that it would be best to remain prudent.

“Hmm?”

Just as Lin Dong retracted his gaze, that elderly man dressed in grey robes also gently gasped in surprise as he quickly scanned the crowd in the auction house. He had also felt a trace of Mental Energy vibration. However, after searching for a while, he did not find anything. Promptly, his eyebrows furrowed.

“Grand Master Ruo, what happened?” Beside him, the elegant lady dressed in red asked him somewhat curiously after she witnessed this situation.

“Haha, it's nothing...” The elderly man in grey shook his head. That sensation that he experienced previously was probably just an error on his part. With a wave of his hand, he said: “The auction is about to start, let's head to the VIP booth.”

“Yes.”

Towards Grand Master Ruo, even the lady, who commanded a high status in the Thousand Gold Association, had to be respectful. Immediately, she nodded and was all smiles as she led him towards the other side of the auction house.

When he saw them leave, Lin Dong stealthily heaved a sigh of relief. Just now, he could clearly feel Grand Master Ruo's Mental Energy sweep across his body. However, now that Lin Dong had trained at the Mind Millstones, his Mental Energy was exceptionally sturdy. Therefore, even Master Ruo could not detect it.

“Grand Master Ruo's Mental Energy is truly powerful. He is probably at the 3rd of 4th Seal stage.”

Just now, when Grand Master Ruo scanned the room, Lin Dong could clearly feel the might of the former's Mental Energy. In the past, he had scant knowledge of Mental Energy, thus, like a newborn baby, he held no fear and respect towards the former. However, now that his Mental Energy prowess has grown, he finally understood how powerful that old man was. It was no wonder these well-respected women were so polite towards him.

“Dong!”

While these thoughts circled in Lin Dong's heart, a crisp bell sound echoed out in the auction house. Immediately, the entire place became extremely heated. Meanwhile, Lin Dong's eyes were also directed towards the auction stage. After all, he knew that the Thousand Gold Association's auction was about to begin...

This was the first time Lin Dong was going to experience an auction of this scale. Hence, deep down, he was looking forward to find out: What manner of precious objects would appear?

Chapter 105: Money Squandering

Establishment

Under the fiery gazes of the crowd, a few pretty women walked up the auction stage. The one who led them was a fat middle-aged man wearing an embroidered gown, who was all smiles as he clasped his hands together respectfully towards the surrounding guests.

“Welcome all guests to our Thousand Gold Auction House’s auction. I hope that everyone will be able to return home satisfied today.”

That fatty beamed at the crowd as he gave his opening address. Yet, when he saw the somewhat impatient expressions of the crowd, he coughed out a few laughs and without further ado, he straightaway proceeded to the main part of the auction.

“Everyone, the first item in our auction today is provided by the head of our Thousand Gold Association, a 4th Seal Symbol Master, Grandmaster Ruo’s work, the Autumn Scale Sword.”

Behind the fatty, a servant girl presented a silver plate. On top of the silver plate was a light-yellow long sword that was approximately two feet in length. The sword gleamed as if it was covered in numerous scales and on its surface, rows of symbols were faintly discernible. A peculiar chill faintly pulsed from the sword.

“I shall not give a pointless introduction of Grandmaster Ruo,

I'm sure that everyone knows of this legendary figure. This Autumn Scale Sword was personally inscribed by Grandmaster Ruo and can be rated as an extremely sharp and powerful sword. Even an expert using Yuan Power to protect his body, would find it exceedingly hard to defend against it, an extremely deadly weapon."

"The bid for this sword will start at five hundred Yang Yuan Stones. If anyone is interested, feel free to begin." After finishing his explanations, the fatty grinned as he clasped his hands towards the surrounding crowd.

"Five hundred Yang Yuan Stones is equivalent to fifty Yang Yuan Pills..."

When Lin Dong heard this price, his lips involuntarily trembled. He could tell that this so-called "Autumn Scale Sword" was indeed a fine weapon. However, it was clearly not worth that price. The reason why it was so expensive, was likely due to the fact that it's creator was extremely renowned.

"Grandmaster Ruo? It mostly likely due to that Grandmaster Ruo. To think that he was actually a 4th Seal Symbol Master, truly a master..." While he lamented at the expensive price, Lin Dong mumbled to himself.

Currently, there were already quite a few people scrambling to bid for the "Autumn Scale Sword". Looks like Grandmaster Ruo's name was practically a gold lettered signboard.

Lin Dong did not hold much interest towards this “Autumn Scale Sword”. After all, he was no adept with swords. Thus, even if he bought it, he would not find much use for it. This reason allowed him to calmly observe, as the price straightaway rocketed to eight hundred Yang Yuan Stones while he constantly sighed.

This first auction item finally stopped at eight hundred and fifty Yang Yuan Stones. That fatty was evidently quite satisfied with such a price. After smiling and congratulating the winner, he quickly moved on to the next auction article.

The second auction article was a type of Level 3 Martial Arts which could not be considered as a top-tier item. Thus, the starting bid was set at one hundred Yang Yuan Stones. The number of bidders this time was clearly a fraction of before and in the end, second item was sold for only one hundred and fifty Yang Yuan Stones.

After experiencing the first few auctions, Lin Dong, who had yet to see any decent items began to feel the novelty of the auction fade. He leaned back on his chair and once again closed his eyes to rest as he waited for the appearance of the things that he needed.

The atmosphere of the auction continued to be pretty lively, after all, quite a crowd was here and after about ten more items were auctioned off, the resting Lin Ding finally came upon the item he needed.

Void Spirit Grass, a Grade 5 Elixir with Mental Energy nourishing properties. Starting bid: two hundred Yang Yuan Stones.

This simple introduction caused Lin Dong's tightly shut eyes to open wide as his fervently stared at the jade box on the auction stage which contained the Elixir.

An Elixir like this would definitely be in great demand. Especially this kind of high Grade Elixir. Lin Dong had never seen a Grade 5 Elixir before in Qingyang Town, therefore, when this item was taken out, it drew many bids from the crowd. In less than a minute, the bid had already risen to three hundred Yang Yuan Stones.

With regards to the bidders that were raising the price, Lin Dong's eyebrows slightly furrowed, but he did not immediately join in and instead calmly observed the situation.

The price of the Void Spirit Grass continued rise, yet the speed of this rise had clearly started to slow down. A while later, only two people were left in the bidding competition, however, the price had yet to break past the five hundred Yang Yuan Stone mark.

“Six hundred Yang Yuan Stones.”

A voice abruptly sounded about the auction, causing many to be stunned for a while. Their gazes followed the voice and they found a figure wearing straw hat before quickly shifting away, not bothering too much with this new competitor.

The one who had made the final bid was naturally Lin Dong. When they saw that the price had been raised by a hundred Yang

Yuan Stones, the other two bidders could only resentfully seat themselves down. From Lin Dong's appearance, he was evidently rich and overbearing. It would probably be fruitless to continue to fight it out with him.

After the two gave up, the fatty inquired three times before concluding the transaction. And the "Void Spirit Grass" would have considered to have ended up in Lin Dong's bag.

"Phew..."

Upon the successful end to that auction, Lin Dong softly sighed. Regardless, it seems like he had finally gotten something out of the auction today.

After successfully obtaining a Mental Energy nourishing Grade 5 Elixir, Lin Dong once again chose to quietly observe. Later on, he once again extravagantly made his move and used three thousand and five hundred Yang Yuan Stones to successively purchase four Grade 5 Elixirs. Overall, quite a bountiful harvest indeed.

Of course, this kind of harvest had been paid for with quite a substantial sum. Five Grade 5 Elixirs had cost Lin Dong over four thousand Yang Yuan Stones which was essentially four hundred Yang Yuan Pills. If it were not for the fact that he had used the Stone Talisman to refine Yang Yuan Pills for himself, with just the one hundred Yang Yuan Pills that Lin Zhentian had passed to Lin Dong before his departure, Lin Dong could probably do nothing here but watch helplessly...

“Yan City is indeed incomparable to Qingyang Town...”

In this short half an hour's time, Lin Dong had outright thrown away four hundred Yang Yuan Pills, even he felt a heartache at this amount. It was only here did he finally come to know what a money squandering establishment truly was.

However, as long as he was able to advance to 2nd Seal Symbol Master in two months, it would be worth it no matter how large the price!

“I am currently left with six hundred Yang Yuan Pills, looks like I'll have to use them more sparingly...” Lin Dong counted the Yang Yuan Pills he had left which had shrunk to almost half its initial amount and involuntarily licked his lips.

“Hehe, the next auction item is an Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill. I'm sure that some Symbol Masters would be very interested in it. The initial bid shall start at one thousand Yang Yuan Stones.”

Just as Lin Dong was deciding whether it was time to leave, the voice from the auction stage caused his body which was about to rise to suddenly turn stiff.

“Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill...”

Under the straw hat, Lin Dong lightly licked his lips. As expected of the extremely famous auction house of Yan City. To think that an Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill would actually make an

appearance at this auction. Even the late Gu Ying did not possess such an item.

What the current Lin Dong lacked the most was this kind of offensive Mental Energy skill!

“One thousand one hundred Yang Yuan Stones!”

“One thousand two hundred!”

“.....”

As he gazed at the scene which had practically caught fire in that moment, Lin Dong's eyes slightly narrowed. Looks like there were quite a few people here who were interested in this Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill.

While everyone fought over that Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill in the auction, a few gazes were also watching from a VIP booth to one side.

“I did not expect that there was actually someone who would auction off an Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill.” The grey robed Grandmaster Ruo was a little astonished as he glanced at the auction while smiling.

“Hehe, if Grandmaster Ruo is interested, Xuan Su will send someone to purchase it.” Seated to one side in a red dress was a rather graceful woman who wore a sweet smile on her face as she

said.

“It’s fine. Though an Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill is not bad, to this old man, it’s not a must-have item.” Grandmaster Ruo chuckled as he shook his head.

“True, given Grandmaster Ruo’s current strength, an Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill does not have much appeal.” The lady in a red dress had a small smile on her lips as she replied.

Grandmaster Ruo laughed in response, just as he was about to speak again, he suddenly let out a soft gasp of surprise. He gazed towards a corner of the auction area and remarked: “This person is really wealthy, to think that he actually spent two thousand five hundred Yang Yuan Stones to purchase this Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill. From what I saw of the Elixirs he had bought before, they all possess Mental Energy nourishing properties. Looks like this person should also be a Symbol Master.”

Upon hearing these words, the lady in red and the younger lady in green also cast their gazes towards the same corner of the auction area. That spot was exactly the one where Lin Dong was seated.

“Hmmm, this person’s Mental Energy seems to be slightly familiar...”

Grandmaster Ruo watched that figure attentively as his eyebrow raised slightly. Soon after, with a nudge of his mind, a strand of Mental Energy swiftly flowed out and shortly approached Lin

Dong's body.

In the instance when his Mental Energy spread to Lin Dong's body, Lin Dong, who was rather happy with the fact that he had just managed to successfully procure the Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill, suddenly sensed Mental Energy scan his body as his expression abruptly changed.

In that same instance, a trace of Mental Energy gushed out of Lin Dong's Niwan Palace as if it were a conditioned reflex before hastily wrapping around his body. However, when his Mental Energy gushed out, he already knew that he was a split second late. Now, his appearance was likely known to the owner of that strand of Mental Energy.

While Lin Dong furrowed his eyebrows, in the VIP booth, the originally smiling Grandmaster Ruo suddenly stood up, shock thick in his eyes. That appearance of his caused the two women beside to be startled for a while.

“To think that it was him?!”

Chapter 106: Xuan Su

“Master Ruo, what happened?”

The woman known as Xuan Su was first shocked when she saw the normally calm old man lose his composure before she promptly asked.

“It’s actually him...”

Grandmaster Ruo’s eyes were full of astonishment as he gazed at that figure. It was as if a raging tsunami had crashed into the land known as his heart. He had recognized this person; the one who was wantonly purchasing Elixirs turned out to be the youngster whom he first met in Yan city and to whom he had given the first three parts of “Spiritual Movement Chapter” to.

At the time he first saw Lin Dong, the latter was only at the Earthly Yuan Stage and his Mental Energy was, likewise, at the most basic of levels. Due to the fact that Grandmaster Ruo treasured Mental Energy talent, he had taken the initiative to pass the first three parts of “Spiritual Movement Chapter” to Lin Dong. Yet, Grandmaster Ruo had never expected that the youth who was unable to even sense Mental Energy when they first met had now grown to such a level.

In that brief moment of probing from before, Grandmaster Ruo’s Mental Energy had interacted with Lin Dong’s Mental Energy. In that instance, the former could clearly feel how powerful the latter’s Mental Energy had become. It was very likely that the

latter had already unlocked his own Niwan Palace!

Based on Master Ruo's current strength, unlocking one's Niwan Palace, or even a 1st Seal or 2nd Seal Symbol Master would be nothing for him to be astonished about. However, Lin Dong was different. Just months before, he was someone who had no inkling of what Mental Energy was and yet, in a few months, this novice had transformed into a true Symbol Master. This insane rate of progress caused even a renowned person like Grandmaster Ruo to be shocked. After all, even he took several years to finally cross over to that stage that Lin Dong had taken less than one-tenth of that time to reach!

His talent was simply out of the world.

“Master Ruo knows this person?” To one side, a beautiful, yet somewhat indifferent lady dressed in green asked in a surprised tone. Like the other lady, it was the first time she had seen this old man lose his composure.

“Mm, I do...” At that moment, Grandmaster Ruo slowly regained his composure as he stared at that figure in the auction area with a peculiar glint in his eyes and softly said: “The current him should be a true-blue Symbol Master.”

“Oh?”

After hearing this, the lady in green slightly lifted her eyebrows before she promptly lost some of her initial interest. Though there was not an overabundance of ordinary Symbol Masters in the

Thousand Gold Association, there were still quite a number of them. Therefore, such a revelation was really not very noteworthy. Furthermore, although this person seemed talented, it was likely that he had just recently unlocked his Niwan Palace, someone who could not even be considered as a 1st Seal Symbol Master. In fact, he would probably be unable to beat even a Heavenly Yuan Early Stage expert.

“Haha, Master Ruo, is there anything special about this Symbol Master?” The red clad Xuan Su gently smiled as she asked. She was clearly a highly insightful individual as she knew that an ordinary Symbol Master could not possibly cause Grandmaster Ruo to lose himself in such a way.

“An ordinary Symbol Master is indeed nothing to be amazed about. However, just a few months ago, that brat did not even know what a Symbol Master was...” Master Ruo smiled in an indifferent manner as he said.

“He had only been training his Mental Energy for a few months...”

When they heard these words, Xuan Su and the lady in green understood. They were rather knowledgeable about Symbol Masters, yet they had never heard of anyone who managed to advance from a newbie to a true Symbol Master in such a short time.

“When I first met this fellow at Mysterious Objects Mall, I wanted him to be my disciple, however, I was turned down.” Grandmaster Ruo laughed. He had seldom been rejected, therefore

when he mentioned this fact, his expression turned slightly sour.

Of course, besides his expression, even Xuan Su and the lady in green were surprised. In Yan City, countless Symbol Masters were dying to become Grandmaster Ruo's discipline. Yet this person actually dared to reject him. One wonders if he had an extraordinary background or if he was just a fool...

"When he left, I passed him the first three parts of "Spiritual Movement Chapter". Judging by his talent, I had thought at first that he would probably take at least a year before he could unlock his Niwan Palace. However, right now, it seems like he had already reached that step..." Grandmaster Ruo somewhat regretfully said.

"Based on Master Ruo's words, it seems like this person is a rather good seedling." Xuan Su was full of interest as she spoke. She was one who preferred to take the long-term perspective into account when handling matters. If that person below was as talented as Grandmaster Ruo claimed, he would become a legendary figure in the future. If they could rope such a figure into their Thousand Gold Association, he would perhaps become a huge help.

"Who knows? There are so many talented individuals in this world. It is not so easy for them to reach their full potential. Aunt Su, don't tell me you plan to recruit him?" The lady dressed in green pursed her fair lips, openly showing a trace of haughtiness.

"Girl, you are too proud and arrogant. Don't be so quick to look down on others. If you keep thinking that way, you will eventually lose out." Xuan Su rolled her eyes at the lady in green before she

gently flicked the latter's forehead with her slim fingers as she said in a resigned manner.

“Haha, Xuan Su, regarding the battle over the Celestial Pool, does our Thousand Gold Association still lack a member?” Grandmaster Ruo stared at the auction area before him as he suddenly chuckled and said.

“Yes, we still lack a member. At first, we planned to give that position to Song Qing. However, that girl Zhilan would rather be beaten to death than cooperate with that fellow.” Xuan Su replied as she nodded her head. Promptly, a glint flashed in her eyes as she inquired: “Grandmaster Ruo means to let that person take the position?”

“Aunt Xu, that battle for the Celestial Pool is very important. You can't pick anyone who will just end up dragging us down! Besides, that person had only just unlocked his Niwan Palace, hence his powers are limited.” When she heard these words, the lady in green hastily interjected.

“Then shall we let Song Qing be your partner?” Xuan Su had a small smile on her lips as she said.

“No way! I would rather go solo than be partnered with that bastard!” When she heard Song Qing's name, the lady dressed in green, who had been called Zhilan, immediately frowned as undisguised disgust surfaced in her eyes.

“Haha, don't worry Zhilan. This old man has good judgement.

The talent displayed by that fellow is definitely the top three among all the talented youths I have seen over the years. He should be capable enough. Besides, the battle for the Celestial Pool is fast approaching and since you refuse to work with Song Qing, we can only make do.” Grandmaster Ruo laughed as he said.

“Since Grandmaster Ruo says so, lets invite this gentleman over for a chat? If he is willing to represent our Thousand Gold Association for this Celestial Pool battle, we will definitely reward him lavishly.” Xuan Su slightly smiled and suggested as she gently pulled at the sulking Zhilan,

“Agreed.” Grandmaster Ruo stroked his beard as he lightly nodded.

...

Inside the auction area, Lin Dong had been feeling a little uneasy ever since he realized that his looks had been scanned by that thread of Mental Energy. After lingering at the auction area for a while and he not finding any items that appealed to him, he immediately got up and walked towards the auction area’s exit.

However, just as Lin Dong was about to leave the auction area, an arm suddenly extended from one side as a slightly scrawny looking middle-aged man approached him with a smile: “Sir, may we trouble you for some of your time, our manager has invited you over.”

As he gazed at the middle-aged man standing before him, Lin

Dong slightly furrowed his eyebrows. He stealthily scanned his surroundings and realized that a dozen other men were slowly approaching. These men had strong auras and their footsteps were very steady. Evidently, they were all rather skilled.

“Lead the way.”

Lin Dong’s gaze slightly flashed before he calmly nodded. Based on this welcome, it seems like the person that wanted to meet him was fairly reputable. These elite bodyguards were much more powerful than the Blood Cloth Sect members. Furthermore, after that thread of Mental Energy probed him previously, he had vaguely guessed who he would be meeting.

When he saw that Lin Dong did not resist, the smile on that middle-aged man’s face turned kinder. Promptly, he swiftly turned and to lead Lin Dong.

Lin Dong followed behind as they passed through a corridor before finally entering a lavishly decorated room. Immediately, as he had expected, the smiling face of an elderly grey robed man appeared before his eyes.

“Haha, my friend, we meet again...” When he saw Lin Dong enter the room, Grandmaster Ruo slightly smiled as he said.

“It seems like I was found out in the end.”

Upon hearing what was said, Lin Dong involuntarily could not

help but let out a bitter laugh. He removed the straw hat from his head and faced the elderly man as he clasped his hands together: “Lin Dong respectfully greets the grandmaster!”

“Hehe, this brat is indeed a remarkable youth. At this age, he has already become a Symbol Master. It seems like he has a bright future ahead.” In the room, a woman dressed in red curiously sized up Lin Dong before she charmingly smiled and commented.

Beside her, Zhilan glanced at Lin Dong before she withdrew her gaze with a trace of laziness.

“Could I inquire as to why these three esteemed individuals have summoned a youngster such as me?” Lin Dong knew that these three individuals before him were all of significant status in Yan City. Thus, without further ado, he immediately asked them.

“Lin Dong my friend, you should have mastered the first three parts of ‘Spiritual Movement Chapter’ that I passed to you right?” Grandmaster Ruo had a smile on his as he asked.

“Indeed.”

Lin Dong humbly scratched his head and nodded. He had already fully mastered the first three parts of “Spiritual Movement Chapter” months ago...

“This person is the manager of the Thousand Gold Auction House. You can call her Manager Su. She is the one in charge of the

whole auction house. This other lady is of utmost importance to the president of the Thousand Gold Association, Xia Zhilan.” Master Ruo introduced the other two to Lin Dong.

Lin Dong lightly nodded his head. However, he did not lose his composure. First, he had already suspected that these two were of a prominent background. Second, they did not have much relation to him. Thus after he glanced at them, he turned back to look at Grandmaster Ruo. After all, he knew that these people did not approach him for no reason.

Towards Lin Dong’s undisturbed expression, Xuan Su did not mind much and only sweetly laughed in response. While the lady in green’s eyebrows slightly knitted together.

“The reason we invited you over was because we have a request.”

After Grandmaster Ruo finished with his pleasantries, he returned to the main topic. He looked towards Lin Dong, smiling as he said: “My friend, currently, you should have unlocked your Niwan Palace right? If you agree to help us, I can aid you in condensing a Destiny Symbol.”

When he heard these words, Lin Dong’s facial expression turned a little strange. After he considered how to reply for a while, he softly said: “Grandmaster Ruo, even though I don’t know what exactly is your request. However,... with regards to the Destiny Symbol, I have already condensed it...”

Inside the room, that youngster’s voice gently echoed out as the

smiles on Grandmaster Ruo's, Xuan Su's and Zhilan's face immediately turned stiff...

Chapter 107: Celestial Dan Pool

“You have already condensed a Destiny Symbol?”

In the room which had turned deathly quiet, Grandmaster Ruo’s voice rang out as disbelief surfaced on his face.

Unlocking one’s Niwan Palace was an integral step in Mental Energy cultivation while condensing a Destiny Symbol was the most important step of all. Even Grandmaster Ruo, who held high hopes for Lin Dong, had never expected that in a few short months, the latter had not only unlocked his Niwan Palace but in addition condensed a Destiny Symbol!

Even with an old man’s wealth of experience, the news still caused him to lose his calm demeanor in a flash.

Shock also bubbled up in Manager Su’s and Xia Zhilan’s eyes. Even the rather prideful Xia Zhilan now viewed him in a different light. A 1st Seal Symbol Master possessed the ability to contend against a Heavenly Yuan Stage expert, a level of strength that was worthy enough for her to re-evaluate her judgement. Furthermore...even a haughty person like her could not help but acknowledge that this Mental Energy potential was rather terrifying.

“Hehe, Master Ruo, it seems like your appraisal is extremely accurate.” Xuan Su’s bountiful bust gently swelled as if trying to suppress the shock in her heart. Moments later, she then turned to look at Lin Dong with a peculiar glint in her eyes as she sweetly

smiled.

“You...you had a method to condense the Destiny Symbol?” Grandmaster Ruo was still in slight denial as he stared at Lin Dong and asked.

“Thanks to a series of fortunate events, I managed to procure a method to condense the Destiny Symbol.” Lin Dong softly replied. Promptly, with a flick of his mind, a wave of Mental Energy emerged and crystallized into a Destiny Symbol with an odd luster. He was not worried that his Destiny Soul Symbol might be recognized. After all, if the symbol did not warp itself, nobody could tell if it was any different.

“It is indeed a Destiny Symbol!”

When he saw the symbol made from Mental Energy, the doubt in Grandmaster Ruo’s and the two ladies’ eyes completely dissipated.

“We have completely underestimated you... it has not even been a year since you started Mental Energy cultivation and yet you have reached the 1st Seal Symbol Master level. The amount of talent and potential you possess surpasses anyone I have ever known! ” Grandmaster Ruo stroked his beard as he sincerely exclaimed.

“Grandmaster Ruo is too kind. I was just lucky.” Lin Dong chuckled as he recalled his Destiny Symbol.

“Haha, Xuan Su, right now both of you should have no doubts regarding the strength of this young one right? Since he is a 1st Seal Symbol Master, there should not be much difference between his and Song Qing’s strength.” Grandmaster Ruo looked at the two women behind him as he smiled and said.

“Yes.”

This time, not only was the red-clad lady in complete agreement, even that slightly colder lady in green was forced to acknowledge this fact.

“Grandmaster Ruo, what is the matter you approached me for? I am not that powerful thus I am afraid I can’t be of much assistance.” Lin Dong remained calm and collected as he looked to Grandmaster Ruo and spoke.

“Heehee, young one. It is not good to be too humble.”

A wave of a fragrance assaulted his senses as Lin Dong gazed at the beauty approaching him. Manager Su’s facial features were indeed exceedingly beautiful. At least, she was the most beautiful lady that Lin Dong had ever met. Her mature and elegant charm was truly soul enrapturing. After a glance at her, he immediately lowered his eyes.

“Have you ever heard of Celestial Dan Pool?” Xuan Su looked at the young man before her as she said.

“I haven’t.” Lin Dong honestly shook his head.

When she saw Lin Dong’s response, Xuan Su suddenly went mute. Soon after, she gently chuckled, not minding it as she continued: “This so-called Celestial Dan Pool is actually an exceedingly rare natural formation. These Celestial Dan Pools contain an extremely pure Yin and Yang Energy. If one is able to absorb the energy within, not only would one be able to swiftly congeal a Yuan Dan, but the Yuan Dan formed will also be at least 6 stars.”

“Oh?”

Lin Dong’s heart suddenly skipped a beat. He never knew that there was such a miraculous thing in this world. Since it allowed one to swiftly advance to Yuan Dan Stage, it would definitely be highly coveted.

Deep in the mountains on the east side of Yan City, our Thousand Gold Association discovered a ‘Celestial Dan Pool’. However, at the same time, men from the Blood Wolf Gang also discovered it.” When she mentioned the Blood Wolf Gang, the smile on her face slightly weakened. Evidently, there was a significant grudge between the two parties.

“The Celestial Dan Pool has limited benefits for elite Yuan Dan practitioners. However, for younger generation members at Heavenly Yuan Stage, it is practically a godsend. Therefore, both factions are very keen to acquire this ‘Celestial Dan Pool’.”

Lin Dong silently nodded. If this ‘Celestial Dan Pool’ really had such a miraculous effect, then whoever managed to absorb the energy within would practically give their faction another Yuan Dan Stage practitioner, substantially increasing the power of their faction. Furthermore, the person would possess a high quality Yuan Dan and his or her strength would surely surpass that of an ordinary Yuan Dan practitioner. Thus, even though the Thousand Gold Association and the Blood Wolf Gang were amongst the three top factions in Yan City, neither was willing to give up on this ‘Celestial Dan Pool’.

“Though this ‘Celestial Dan Pool’ is truly magical, there is no way for it to be shared between both parties. For this reason, our Thousand Gold Association and the Blood Wolf Gang have fought over this issue. In the end, we negotiated and proposed a ‘Celestial Dan Pool Duel’.”

“Simply put, this ‘Celestial Dan Pool Duel’ is a battle. However, for this duel, both factions will nominate three individuals for which there is a restriction. That is, we can only send out younger generation members. This is the reason why we have approached you.” Xuan Su gently smiled as she said.

“You want me to represent you and fight for the ‘Celestial Dan Pool’?” Lin Dong furrowed his eyebrows before he promptly shook his head and said: “The Thousand Gold Association is powerful and massive. It should be a simple feat to find someone stronger than me. I think it’s best we drop this issue...”

“You are too humble. Based on your current strength, even amongst the younger generation members in Yan City, you can

definitely be considered the top few. Initially, we had already planned our roster. However, one of the members, Zhilan was strongly opposed. Therefore, we had no choice but to try this last-minute swap.”

Xuan Su was a person who could command this large auction house. She was naturally experienced and wise in the ways of the world. When she heard Lin Dong’s words, she immediately understood that this youngster before her was merely fishing for a reward first. Instantly, she chuckled before speaking: “If you want any rewards, feel free to ask.”

A 1st Seal Symbol Master was able to match up against a Heavenly Yuan Middle Stage expert. Amongst the younger generation, his strength was considered impressive. Thus, she was reluctant to let him go.

When he heard the word ‘reward’, Lin Dong’s eyes slightly narrowed before he turned silent for a while. Suddenly, he gave his reply: “Sure, as long as I am allowed to soak in that ‘Celestial Dan Pool’ once we are done...”

That ‘Celestial Dan Pool’ was truly a magical natural formation. Therefore, its powers caused even someone like Lin Dong to be highly interested. After all, this opportunity was not something that he could buy with Yang Yuan Stones alone.

“You are too greedy! There is only a limited amount of energy in the ‘Celestial Dan Pool’. How can we simply let anyone soak in it!” When she heard these words, Zhilan, who was standing nearby, involuntarily shouted out in a frosty voice.

“Furthermore, this time we are merely asking you to make up the numbers. If we attain two consecutive victories in the first two rounds, then perhaps you don’t even need to show yourself for the final round. If so, how can we possibly allow you to soak in the Celestial Dan Pool?”

Lin Dong’s face was calm as he glanced at Xia Zhilan. Promptly, he turned to look at Xuan Su, whose eyebrows were now slightly furrowed, and said: “If I do not have to fight, then can do without the compensation. However... what if you fail to emerge victorious in the first two rounds?”

Xia Zhilan was dumbstruck and at a loss for words. If it were so easy to deal with these Blood Wolf Gang members, their Thousand Gold Association would not have such a hard time looking for a suitable member.

“The energy in the Celestial Dan Pool is limited. However, if you make a significant contribution during the Celestial Dan Pool Duel, we can consider your request.” Xuan Su was silent for a moment before she slowly said.

“Aunt Xu!” When she realised the meaning behind Xuan Su’s words, Zhilan immediately shouted out. However, the former turned and glared at her, causing her to reluctantly shut her mouth.

When he heard these words, a smile surfaced on Lin Dong’s face. He could tell that this Xie Zhilan was at Heavenly Yuan Late Stage.

In a manner of speaking, she was considered quite powerful. Therefore, it seems like the younger generation members in the Blood Wolf Gang should be around her level as well. However, to Lin Dong who had killed Gu Ying previously, these opponents should not be much trouble.

“Haha, you brat. You actually managed to force Xuan Su to concede. What a rare sight.” After he witnessed the negotiations conclude, Grandmaster Ruo could not help but shake his head as he smiled and said.

Lin Dong released a dry laugh. This was a rare opportunity after all. If he did not make full use of it, he would never have a chance to enjoy this magical “Celestial Dan Pool”.

To one side, Xia Zhilan gave a stared daggers at Lin Dong. She clearly never expected that this decent-looking fellow was actually so devious.

“When will the competition commence?” Ignoring her gaze, Lin Dong looked straight at Su Xu and asked.

“In three days time.”

Xuan Su lightly smiled as she continued: “If you would like to, during this period of time, you can stay with us at the Thousand Gold Association. Also, if you require anything, feel free to ask.”

“No need. In three days, I will come back here to find you.” Lin

Dong shook his head. He had his own secrets to hide and since there were many people here at the Thousand Gold Association, he was afraid of the consequences should his secret be unveiled. Furthermore, he wanted to use these three days to practise the Secret Spirit Skill that he just purchased. That way, he would have another hidden ace up his sleeve.

After finishing these words, Lin Dong briefly discussed strategies with Xuan Su and the other two before he took the initiative and left.

“Aunt Xu, are you really agreeing to let that brat enter the Celestial Dan Pool? The amount of energy inside the Celestial Dan Pool is only sufficient for a few people...” As she gazed at Lin Dong’s departing figure, Xia Zhilan somewhat regretfully asked.

“Haha, back to what I said before. It all depends on his contribution. If you do not want to share with him, shouldn’t you just strive for two consecutive victories?” Xuan Su smiled in an indifferent as she replied.

Upon hearing these words, Xia Zhilan gently gritted her teeth. With a soft chuckle: “Alright, at that time, I will make him understand that he merely here to make up the numbers! Humph, that brat really thinks he’s something!”

To one side, upon hearing her snort, Xuan Su involuntarily smiled. Her beautiful eyes lingered at the spot where Lin Dong had disappeared. In her heart, she felt that this fellow was probably highly skilled...

“Whether he is a donkey or a horse, we shall find out in three days...”

Chapter 108: Piercing Helicity

When Lin Dong left the Thousand Gold Auction House, he did not make another more stops. However, for safety reasons, he did not immediately return to the inn where he was resting. Instead, he chose to travel around the city for half a day, before he leisurely returned to the inn.

After returning to the inn, Lin Dong casually filled his belly before he instructed the inn owner not to disturb him and tightly shut his room door.

Once he entered his room, Lin Dong hurriedly retrieved five jade boxes from his Qiankun bag. When he opened them, an alluring fragrance immediately drifted out as a dim light glow coiled around the Elixirs. Based on their appearance alone, Lin Dong knew that these Elixirs were much better than the Grade 4 Elixirs that he bought in Qingyang Town.

Lin Dong was smiling widely as he stared at today's bountiful harvest. Yan City was truly remarkable compared to Qingyang Town. Back home, he would find it extremely difficult to find such high quality elixirs though the prices of these items were naturally exorbitant.

As Lin Dong slowly extended out his right palm, a mysterious light shot out from his palm and interweaved itself on one of the Elixirs. Soon after, the Elixir began to rapidly transform. Approximately ten minutes later, they had turned into five perfectly round Elixir pills.

“As expected of a Grade 5 Elixir. Even the Stone Talisman requires such a long time to refine them...” As he stared at the rich Elixir pills in his palm, Lin Dong softly exclaimed. Previously, when he was refining Elixirs, it would be complete in an extremely short time. However, this was the first time he needed more than ten minutes to refine them.

After he successfully refined the first Grade 5 Elixir, Lin Dong decided to refine the remaining four Elixirs as well. In the end, these Elixirs were turned into twenty-five Elixir pills.

As he stared at the Elixir pills that had been stored in a jade bottle, Lin Dong nodded his head in satisfaction. After the Stone Talisman had refined them, all the medicinal power in these Elixirs were now perfectly distributed into these pills.

The benefits stemming from consuming one Grade 5 Elixir was equivalent to consuming just two Elixir pills. Since one Elixir could be refined into five pills, this meant that thanks to the Stone Talisman, Lin Dong was able to fully absorb the maximum amount of medicinal power from these Elixirs.

“Lets first test out how effective these pills are!”

Lin Dong licked his lips, before he straight-away sat on his bed with his legs crossed and once again ventured into the Stone Talisman Spiritual Domain!

The enormous Mind Millstones continued their slow rotation. In the spot where these two millstones interacted, Lin Dong’s Mental

Energy was once again in the cycle of being torn apart and then restored again...

This cycle continued on until the tenth time, before Lin Dong's tightly shut eyes gradually began to open. His face was exceptionally pale and a dizzying sensation continuously gushed out in his brain. A prickly numbing sensation caused the muscles all over Lin Dong's body to twitch faintly. It seems like today's Mind Millstone cultivation session had caused his body to become extremely feeble.

Removing an Elixir pill that he refined previously from the jade bottle, Lin Dong quickly stuffed it into his mouth before slowly shutting his eyes. Allowing the warm medicinal power to begin its rapid spread throughout his body.

A slightly chilly sensation began to slowly flow through the inner channels in his body. Finally, just like how a steam ascends, traces of medicinal effect began to flow into his Niwan Palace.

When the ice-cold Qi flowed into his Niwan Palace, the dizzying sensation in his brain swiftly dissipated. Meanwhile, the feeble sensation in his body also began to fade.

About an hour later, when all the medicinal power had been absorbed into his Niwan Palace, Lin Dong began to open his eyes, now full of energy. Plastered on his face was a hard to conceal delight.

The effect of the Elixir pill had vastly exceed his expectations.

The gruelling session at the Mind Millstones and the act of consuming an Elixir pill perfectly complemented each other. Therefore, after merely one cultivation session, the Destiny Symbol in his Niwan Palace sparkled. Compared to before, it also seemed more solid!

“Huu...”

With a delighted expression, Lin Dong deeply inhaled. Previously, when he did not have any Grade 5 Elixir pills, in one day, he could at most endure ten cycles at the Mind Millstones before he was forced to rest. Only on the second day could he continue on this process.

However, right now, after he consumed this Grade 5 Elixir pill, Lin Dong could increase the efficiency of this process by several times!

For example, currently, after consuming the Grade 5 Elixir pill to recover, even though he was not at his peak condition, it was sufficient for him to once again return to the Mind Millstones and temper himself!

As such, it was evident that these Grade 5 Elixir pills are indeed extremely potent. After all, you get what you pay for.

“Again!”

Sensing that his condition had greatly improved, Lin Dong’s

spirits were once again revived as he deeply shouted with a fervent expression in his eyes and actually re-entered the Stone Talisman Spiritual Domain!

In just half a day, Lin Dong had endured thirty full cycles of being blown apart and then revived again. This kind of torturous training caused even the small marten to be stupefied as the word 'lunatic' was constantly mumbled...

These thirty cycles finally caused Lin Dong to feel thoroughly exhausted. After the third repetition, Lin Dong could still feel a numbing sensation from his mind even after he consumed an Elixir pill. He knew that he had reached his limit. If he forcefully continued to train, he would only hurt himself.

Once he reached this stage, Lin Dong was forced to stop with this maniac-like training. Even with the aid of Grade 5 Elixir pills, it seems like based on Lin Dong's current standards, he could only endure at most thirty cycles a day.

Nonetheless, compared to before, this was three times more efficient. Therefore, the result was pretty satisfactory.

When Lin Dong noted this point, he began to calm down. After all, there is a limit to everything and the same applied to training as well. This principle was something Lin Dong understood.

After concluding his training at the Mind Millstones, Lin Dong proceeded to retrieve a jade disk-like object from his Qiankun Bag. This was the Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill that he had

purchased during the auction.

There were some symbols inscribed on the jade disk. After Lin Dong's gaze swept over them, he understood that contained within this jade was a weak pulse of Mental Energy. Right now, even though he was still somewhat a novice, with a flick of his mind, a thread of Mental Energy floated out from his Niwan Palace and entered the jade disk.

As Lin Dong's Mental Energy entered, a stream of information swiftly gushed out from within the jade disk and flowed into Lin Dong's mind.

Piercing Helicity, Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill.....

The name of this Secret Spirit Skill was slightly odd. However, after Lin Dong carefully studied it for a while, he gained a better understanding of it. This so-called Piercing Helicity was actually a special Mental Energy shock wave. In particular, this Mental Energy shockwave had a unique frequency and this made it even more deadly.

However, if one wanted to master this special frequency, it was evidently going to be an uphill battle.

Inside his room, Lin Dong was deep in thought. A long while later, a stream of Mental Energy abruptly gushed out from his Niwan Palace. At the instance when it gushed out, with a flick of his mind, that Mental Energy shock wave was swiftly came under his control. Soon after, it changed according to that unique

frequency.

As the frequency changed, the formless Mental Energy shock wave also began to change. In the blink of an eye, the formless Mental Energy actually materialized into a cone-like Mental Energy attack that was as thick as one's thigh.

Compared to before, this Mental Energy shock wave not only possessed a shape but it was also in the form of a sharp-tipped cone. The sharp tip swirled like a spiral. At one glance, one could tell that it was indeed deadly.

However, right now, the one major defect was that its shape seemed too illusionary as it only had form but lacked substance. Of course, since Lin Dong had just learnt this 'Piercing Helicity', the fact that he could accomplish this step was already a remarkable achievement. Once he became more proficient, its effect would surely be much better.

Inside the room, Lin Dong was evidently highly interested in this 'Piercing Helicity' as he continuously dispersed it before materializing it again in order to quickly master that unique frequency.

As he happily drilled, the form of that "Piercing Helicity" gradually began to materialize...

...

In the following three days, Lin Dong practically did not leave the room. All of his time was used to temper his Mental Energy and to practise the Essence Level Secret Spirit Skill that he had recently acquired, ‘Piercing Helicity’.

In just three days, thanks to Lin Dong’s insane training, he had used up nearly one-third of his precious twenty-five Grade 5 Elixir pills. Fortunately, the progress at this rate of consumption was rather good.

Currently, the Destiny Symbol in Lin Dong’s Niwan Palace had materialized till the point where it was almost an actual object. Lin Dong could clearly feel a powerful energy rapidly condensing within his Destiny Symbol.

Furthermore, right in the middle of the seemingly material Destiny Symbol, a tiny crack was faintly discernible. This was not a defect but rather an indication that one was approaching the pinnacle of a 1st Seal Symbol Master. When this crack fully splits open, this Destiny Symbol would split itself into two. At that time, one would have advanced to the level of a 2nd Seal Symbol Master!

As for “Piercing Helicity”, Lin Dong had likewise become more proficient with it. Even though he had not tested how powerful it was, he imagined that it would be several times stronger than “Materialized Spirit Needle”. Therefore, this skill would definitely be his hidden signature move.

When the morning of the fourth day arrived, Lin Dong, who was in tip-top shape after a planned rest, slowly opened his eyes as a piercing ray of light flitted across his eyes before disappearing.

“Looks like it’s time...”

Lin Dong leapt off his bed. Today marked the beginning of the ‘Celestial Pool Battle’. Although he was not certain if the Thousand Gold Association could defeat the Blood Wolf Gang, he was extremely drawn to the magical effects of the ‘Celestial Dan Pool’. He knew that if he had the opportunity to soak in it and absorb the pure Yin and Yang Energy within, perhaps he would successfully breakthrough to Yuan Dan stage shortly.

If he could advance to Yuan Dan Stage, with the aid of his Mental Energy, even Wei Tong, whom he previously found exceedingly difficult to deal with, would no longer be a threat. At that time he would be equipped with the power to protect himself even in Yan City!

After experiencing the Blood Cloth Sect crisis, Lin Dong clearly understood in his heart that if he wanted to protect things in this world, what he needed was power!

It was due to this particular reason that he agreed to fulfil the member quota for the Thousand Gold Association and help them contest for the ‘Celestial Dan Pool’!

Chapter 109: Song Qing

Yan City, Thousand Gold Association.

“I told you, we have a better candidate now. Therefore, you don’t need to participate in the Celestial Pool Battle.” In a large hall within the association, Xia Zhilan gazed at a young man dressed in blue as she icily said.

“Zhilan, I know that you have some misgivings about me, however now that the Celestial Pool Battle is about to begin, even though I cannot be considered top-tier among the younger generation members in Yan City, I am not someone who can be so easily replaced. Now is not the time for your tantrums.” That feminine looking young man’s face sunk slightly upon hearing Xia Zhilan’s words. Yet soon after, a smile emerged on his face as he glanced at the alluring figure of that woman before him from the corner of his eyes. Deep in his eyes was a tinge of lust.

Even though she did not manage to spot the trace of lust the young man had concealed, Xia Zhilan still gave him a death stare. She knew that this fellow had a dirty past. Therefore, she had never liked him since the start. In fact, to be honest, she felt disgusted by him.

“Song Qing, just forget about it this time. I will explain this matter to your father.” Xuan Su, who was standing aside, gently smiled as she softly said.

When he saw her speak, the corners of Song Qing’s eyes slightly

twitched. He lowered his head and stared at the ample amount of jade-like thigh that was revealed under Xuan Su's skirt. Instantly, a lustful fire gushed up in his abdomen. However, he knew exactly how powerful this person in front of him was, therefore he did not dare to look at her directly in fear that he would be noticed. Promptly, he turned his gaze and looked at the two elderly men sitting to one side.

“Oh Xuan Su, don't you think this matter was handled too rashly? After all, didn't we agree to let Song Qing fill the last spot? How can we just randomly find someone else to make up the numbers? If that person loses his duel during the “Celestial Pool Duel”, it would be very difficult to explain.” One of the two elderly men, who were both dressed in yellow robes, glanced at Song Qing before he placed down the teacup in his hand as he smiled and directed these words at Xuan Su.

“How about we let Song Qing participate. After all, everyone knows how capable he is.” The other man smiled as he said.

Slightly smiling, Xuan Su replied: “Managers, the reason why we changed our line up was not due to any personal reasons. This duel is extremely important, thus everything we are doing is for the sake of securing our victory. If we can increase the odds of our victory, I would not hesitate to replace even Zhilan with a better candidate.”

The meaning behind her words were clear. The reason why they substituted Song Qing was not because they were prejudiced against him, but rather because they had a better candidate.

When they heard these words, the two elderly men slightly furrowed their eyebrows. Evidently, they were not convinced by her argument. They exchanged a gaze before suddenly laughing and speaking: “Since Manger Su has said so, then it looks like your new candidate is indeed quite skilled. Since these two old men are quite free now, how about we wait here for a while to observe how exactly the new candidate is superior to Song Qing?”

“However, Manger Su, a great deal is at stake. If that new candidate is not as skilled as you said, then please return to the original line up. We do not wish for our Thousand Gold Association to lose to the Blood Wolf Gang over some petty personal issues.”

“Hehe, I am curious to find out who is this person that is so highly valued by Manager Su.” A malicious glint flashed in Song Qing’s eyes as he promptly chuckled before withdrawing and seating himself to one side.

When she saw the trio’s actions, Xuan Su’s black eyebrows gently furrowed. Soon after, she elegantly raised her teacup, a calm expression on her face. To one side, a flash of worry surfaced in Zhilan’s beautiful eyes. Based on their expressions, these guys were evidently planning to wait for Lin Dong’s arrival and test his skills. If Lin Dong’s performance was lackluster, they would probably use that as an excuse to remove him.

Even though she was a little worried, Xia Zhilan had no other option. After all, these two elderly men were considered elders in the Thousand Gold Association and so held considerable sway in the association. Therefore, if the elders managed to find any

weakness today, Song Qing's removal from the team might end up impossible.

“Sigh, we can only hope that fellow will be a little more dependable...” As she gently sighed in her heart, Xia Zhilan had no choice but to sit down and await Lin Dong's arrival.

They did not have to wait for long. Approximately half an hour later, a guard came forward to report.

...

When Lin Dong walked into that large hall, he immediately felt a weird atmosphere. As he scanned his surroundings, he first saw Xuan Su and Xia Zhilan before his gaze stopped at the trio beside them.

Amongst the trio, two were elderly men while the other person looked about twenty years old. Dressed in blue, the younger man's face seemed somewhat feminine yet somewhat sinister. At this moment, a cold glint flashed in the latter's eyes, like a deadly snake, he was staring straight at Lin Dong.

Upon seeing this situation, Lin Dong began to feel slightly troubled...

“Manager Suan Su, this is the so-called better candidate? He doesn't seem any special.” The two elderly men casually glanced at Lin Dong as they uttered in an indifferent manner.

“Lin Dong, these two are the managers from the Thousand Gold Association while this man is the young master of Yan City’s Song Family, Song Qing.” Xuan Su’s jade-like hand gently swayed as she smiled and introduced them.

“Song Qing...”

When he heard this name, Lin Dong finally understood why that person was staring at him viciously. That was because he was the unlucky bastard that Lin Dong had replaced...

“My name is Song Qing, a member of Yan City’s Song Family. My friend, you seem foreign, I am guessing you are not from Yan City right?” Song Qing stood up and approached Lin Dong as he clasped his hands together and smiled.

Just as a smile emerged on Song Qing’s face, without waiting for Lin Dong’s reply, a soft yet cold mosquito-esque voice immediately echoed in Lin Dong’s ears: “I don’t care where you are from, but this young master here will give you some kind advice. You should wisen up and tell Manager Su that you will give up your spot, I will make sure that you are generously compensated. Or else, next time you handle affairs in Yan City, you had better watch out...”

As he stared at that malicious young face in front of him, Lin Dong remained calm. Turning to look at Xuan Su, he asked: “Manager Su, when are we leaving?”

When he saw that Lin Dong had blatantly ignored his warning,

Song Qing was momentarily stunned. Immediately, a malevolent glint surfaced in his eyes.

“Young one, it is not such a simple matter to represent our Thousand Gold Association...” One of the elderly men mocked in an icy voice.

“Manager Su, I know that this matter is extremely important to the Thousand Gold Association thus my actions are all for the good of the association. If this man is indeed better than me as you claimed, then I will automatically give up.” Song Qing turned around and faced Xuan Su as he respectfully said. Meanwhile the hideous expression on his face instantly disappeared.

“What do you plan on doing?” Xia Zhilan furrowed her eyebrows as she asked.

“Hehe, it’s pointless to debate over who is the better candidate. How about they exchange blows to find out who is better?” The other elderly man sipped on his hot tea as he smiled and said.

“You!”

When she heard that these guys were planning to make a move, Zhilan’s eyebrows slightly lifted. To one side, Xuan Su’s eyebrows were also slightly knitted together. Suddenly, her beautiful eyes turned towards Lin Dong. Since Lin Dong was a 1st Seal Symbol Master, he should probably match up against Song Qing, who was at Heavenly Yuan Early Stage. However, she was worried that a mishap may occur...

“It’s all up to Manager Su.” As he glanced at her beautiful eyes, Lin Dong calmly said.

“In that case, let’s have a friendly duel. Remember not to go too far.” Upon witnessing this situation, Xuan Su was forced to nod her head as she declared.

“Boom!”

Just as Xuan Su’s words landed, a powerful Yuan Power almost instantaneously burst out from Song Qing’s body. Immediately, a powerful punch was flashed towards Lin Dong’s chest. His attack obviously was meant to catch the latter off guard.

“Shameless!” When she saw Song Qing’s action, Xia Zhilan’s face instantly turned slightly icy.

Yet, as he faced Song Qing’s sudden and vicious attack, Lin Dong’s facial expression did not change. His body did not move as he allowed that powerful attack to continue.

“Bang!”

Just as Song Qing’s fist was half an inch away from Lin Dong, that powerful punch was suddenly stopped as a deep sound echoed out. It seemed like a formless wall was shielding Lin Dong.

“Mental Energy?!”

Upon witnessing this sight, Song Qing was slightly shocked. Promptly, an icy expression surfaced in his face as an even more powerful Yuan Power subsequently gushed forward!

“Heavenly Yuan Middle Stage?!”

When they sensed the powerful undulation emerging from Song Qing, Xuan Su’s and Xia Zhilan’s expression changed slightly. They never expected that this Song Qing had broken through to Heavenly Yuan Middle Stage!

That sudden surge in Yuan Power allowed Song Qing’s punch to directly blast apart Lin Dong’s Mental Energy barrier. Immediately, a cold glint flashed in Song Qing’s sleeves as a sharp blade stealthily slipped in his palm and was viciously directed towards Lin Dong’s throat.

Lin Dong’s face was impassive as he stared at the now hideous expression on Song Qing’s face while the latter attacked. Lin Dong did not intend to waste any time with his opponent. Abruptly, he took a step forward as an unusually vigorous Mental Energy gushed out from his Niwan Palace. Like a tidal wave, it viciously slammed against Song Qing’s Yuan Power-clad body.

“Boom!”

Thanks to Lin Dong’s terrifying Mental Energy attack, the Yuan

Power defending Song Qing's body instantaneously crumbled as an intense pain emerged inside his head. Meanwhile, in front of Xuan Su's, Zhilan's and the rest's bewildered gazes, his body instantly flew back, as if he had been struck by a giant sledge-hammer, before he finally slammed heavily against a wall inside the giant hall. As his ragged figure fell to the ground, he immediately spat out a mouth of fresh blood.

Lin Dong's move was practically as quick as a lightning. In fact, one could argue that he did not even make a move. After all, from start to end, all Lin Dong did was take a step forward!

However, the Mental Energy attack that accompanied that one step, was able to directly finish off Song Qing, who was at Heavenly Yuan Middle Stage!

A clear-cut victory.

As she stared at that young man in the large hall, Xia Zhilan's beautiful eyes flashed as she softly exclaimed: "This fellow does have some ability."

Chapter 110: Time for Action

The outcome of the battle had went against many of the onlookers' expectations. As they gazed at the sorry figure of Song Qing as it slid down the wall, the two old managers of the Thousand Gold Association were first shocked before their facial expressions quickly turned a little ugly. Moments before, they were speaking about how adequately competent Song Qing was. Never did they imagine that the duel would end this way.

“Hehe, my choice is not bad right, you two?” Xuan Su smiled. Right now, she had concealed the shock in her heart. Meanwhile, her beautiful eyes peculiarly glanced at Lin Dong. The latter's Mental Energy seemed to be more powerful than an ordinary 1st Seal Symbol Master. If not, he would not be able to easily dispose of the Heavenly Yuan Middle Stage Song Qing.

The two old managers released a hollow laugh and could not help but nod their heads in agreement: “These two old men admire Manager Su's excellent judgement...”

When she saw that these two elderly men had stopped interfering, Xia Zhilan gently heaved a sigh of relief. Promptly, her gaze quickly swept across the sorry figure of Song Qing as the expression on her beautiful face suddenly changed and she hurriedly shouted out: “Song Qing, what are you doing?!”

“Bang!”

Before Xia Zhilan's shouted could fade away, Song Qing, who

now had a hideous expression on his face, once again dashed forward. A sharp dagger appeared in his hand as he viciously stabbed at Lin Dong.

When he saw that this fellow still refused to give up, Lin Dong's eyebrows furrowed. Just as he planned to make a move, a figure suddenly appeared before his eyes. Promptly, a mature and lovely figure appeared in front of him. With a wave of her jade-like hands, a Yuan Power shockwave, akin to a hurricane emerged and directly flipped Song Qing away.

“Such might!”

As he gazed at Xuan Su, who had appeared in front of him, Lin Dong's heart was slightly moved as he stared at the former's alluring figure with a peculiar gaze. He never expected that the lovely Manger Xu was actually this powerful. Based on her previous move, it seems like she would not lose out to Wei Tong from the Blood Cloth Sect.

“The Thousand Gold Association is indeed remarkable...” A glint flashed in Lin Dong's eyes. For the first time, he finally acknowledged this faction which was one of the top three powers in Yan City.

“Song Qing, this place belongs to my Thousand Gold Association, not your Song Family. Right now, Lin Dong is a guest of our Thousand Gold Association. I hope that you can show some respect!” Xuan Su's eyebrows knitted together as she stared at Song Qing. A slight chilliness was mixed into her usually delightful and gentle voice. Evidently, Song Qing's actions had enraged her a

little.

“Leave now. I will tell your father about today’s matter.”

When he heard Xuan Su’s words, Song Qing’s face turned green and pale. However, he did not have the guts to stand up against Manger Su. Instantly, he hatefully looked at Lin Dong before he departed.

“Elders, it is getting late. It should be time for us to leave.” After she chased away Song Qing, Xuan Su’s tone was still slightly ugly as she turned and spoke to the two elders with an indifferent manner.

Upon hearing these word, the two elders had no choice but to reluctantly nod their heads as they stood up and left.

“Snort, these two old fellows must have accepted quite a few benefits from the Song Family. That’s why they kept insisting on him.” As she stared at the elders’ departing shadows, Xia Zhilan softly snorted.

“The Song Family are opportunists. On the surface, they appear close to our Thousand Gold Association. However, they also have quite a few secret dealings with the Blood Wolf Sect and the City Governor. Therefore, how can we let that Song Qing take advantage of us so easily this time.”

After finishing, Xuan Su’s beautiful eyes turned towards Lin

Dong, who was standing to one side. With a smile that seemed to hold a deeper meaning, she said: “Little one, it seems like you have hidden much of your talents.”

“Manager Su is generous. My skills are inferior compared to yours.” Lin Dong let out a hollow laugh as he replied.

“Alright, let’s stop with the flattery. It’s time to leave...” Xuan Su rolled her eyes at him. Without further ado, she waved her jade-like hands and led them towards the out of the Thousand Gold Association.

“At least you have some ability. If you cannot even defeat Song Qing, then even if you participate the competition, you will be nothing but an eyesore.” Xia Zhilan walked up to Lin Dong as she uttered in an indifferent tone.

Lin Dong spread out his hands and declined to comment.

“Don’t worry, we will do our best to attain two consecutive victories. That way, there will be no need for you to do anything.”

“In that case.. I won’t get to enjoy the Celestial Dan Pool too right?” Lin Dong smiled as he said.

Upon hearing these words, a enrapturing smile emerged on Xia Zhilan’s beautiful face: “Good answer...” After finishing, she did not linger any further as she suavely turned around and swiftly followed behind Xuan Su.

“Let's hope so...” Lin Dong smiled as he followed them.

When Lin Dong walked out, there were already several dozen fine horses awaiting them outside the Thousand Gold Association. As he scanned his surroundings, he saw that in the middle of a crowd, was a rather handsome young man smiling and conversing with Xia Zhilan.

“This is the person replacing Song Qing. His name is Lin Dong and is somewhat skilled. He just managed to defeat Song Qing...” As Lin Dong walked forward, Xia Zhilan began to introduce him.

“Oh? Hehe, it's no wonder I just saw Song Qing stomp out wearing a hideous expression. It turns out he had been beaten by brother Lin Dong...” Upon hearing these words, the handsome young man was slightly taken aback. Promptly, he cupped his hands and smiled at Lin Dong. Compared to Song Qing, this young man seemed several times better.

The other party's politeness gave Lin Dong a favorable impression as he cupped his fists and returned the greeting.

“Besides the two of us, he is the final member representing the Thousand Gold Association for today's Celestial Pool Battle, Liu Yi. However, he is a more dependable person. Just like me, he is at Heavenly Yuan Late Stage.” Beside them, Xia Zhilan interjected.

“Hehe, brother Lin Dong, please don't listen to her nonsense.” After hearing Xia Zhilan's words, Liu Yi hurriedly smiled as he

said.

Lin Dong chuckled. He was already used to this woman's vicious tongue and could not be bothered to lower himself to her level.

“Alright, let's not waste time talking, it's time to leave...” To one side, Xuan Su leaped onto a fine horse. With a light shout, she led the group as they travelled towards the outskirts of Yan City.

“Brother Lin Dong, let's go. Our destination is deep in the mountains to the east of Yan City. The journey will take approximately one and a half hours.” Liu Yi informed Lin Dong, before the former promptly leapt onto a horse and swiftly caught up to the main convoy. Behind him, Lin Dong likewise quickly mounted his horse and followed them.

...

The place that Lin Dong and the rest were travelling to, was a spot deep in the mountain located at the east side of Yan City. As the rights issue over the “Celestial Dan Pool” was still unresolved, the Thousand Gold Association and the Blood Wolf Gang had sent several men to stand guard there. Both factions were vigilantly monitoring each other, neither party daring to relax.

As such, the location of the Celestial Pool Battle was set nearby the “Celestial Dan Pool”. Therefore, once the victor was decided, they would be able to claim it immediately.

As they travelled rapidly for about an hour, the group in front began to gradually slow down. Lin Dong lifted his eyes as he stared at that thick mountainous forest before him. Faintly, he could hear the roars of some beasts. This place was the lair of Demonic Beasts. Therefore, only factions like the Blood Wolf Gang and the Thousand Merchant Associations dared to station themselves in this kind of place.

“Let’s go. Everyone be careful as we head up the mountain. Even though we have already chased away most of the Demonic Beasts here, there were still quite a number that slipped through the cracks...” Xuan Su leapt off the horse, without further ado, she straight away dashed towards the deep mountains. Behind her, a large body of troops swiftly followed as the sounds of breaking through the wind continuously rang out in the forest.

Lin Dong was situated approximately in the middle of the convoy. As he vigilantly observed his surroundings, he could sense that there were indeed several Demonic Beasts in this mountain. Though this crew was powerful, it would still be troublesome if they were attacked. Thus it was best to remain cautious.

Thankfully, Lin Dong’s fears did not become a reality. Around ten minutes later, the dense forest began to open up. Soon after, Lin Dong began to feel his vision widen. It seems like they had successfully reached the mountain peak.

Just as Lin Dong and the rest appeared at the mountain peak, the sounds of bows being drawn was heard from all around them. Before Lin Dong could hastily retreat, a shout immediately rang out from the front.

As Lin Dong lifted his head and looked at the top of the mountain, he realized that on the top of the mountain were two groups, both already in a state of high alert. Situated at the edge of the mountain, was a towering rock formation that soared towards the heavens. Below it was a tiny crystal-clear pool slightly over three meters long. The water in the pool seemed extraordinarily magical as one half of it continuously boiled and bubbled, while a bone-chilling mist hovered above the other half. These two parts were obviously of contrasting elements yet they were able to coexist inside this tiny pool.

“I guess this must be the so-called Celestial Dan Pool...” Lin Dong eyes swept across the tiny pool as he softly muttered to himself.

“Manager Su, you’ve really taken your time...” Just as Lin Dong’s gaze was attracted by the Celestial Dan Pool, an icy voice suddenly echoed out. He turned to look, only to see that in front of that huge group was a tall and well-built middle-aged man with a giant blood wolf tattoo on his body who was staring straight at them.

No particularly strong Yuan Power undulated on that man’s body. However, as he stood there, he felt like a giant mountain. No one would dare to underestimate him.

Lin Dong’s eyes met briefly with the giant man before he immediately retracted his gaze. From the latter’s body, he could feel an immense pressure. This immense pressure was something he had not felt even from Wei Tong.

“That man is the head of the Blood Wolf Gang. People call him Mountain Hand Yue Shan. He is a Perfect Yuan Dan Stage elite. In this entire Yan City, there is hardly anyone who can match up against him also known as the tyrant of Yan City!” Beside Lin Dong, Liu Yi softly said.

Lin Dong gently nodded his head. Perfect Yuan Dan Stage. Upon reaching this stage, one was merely one step away from reaching that so-called three stages of ‘Seize, Create and Transform’. If Yue Shan could reach that stage, notwithstanding Yan City, even in the entire Tiandu Province, he would be considered as a legendary figure...

“Hehe, Gang Chief Yue, why so impatient....” Just as Yue Shan spoke, on the Thousand Gold Association’s side, a man dressed in silk robes, who seemed like a merchant also gently smiled. He was the only one who was not affected by the former’s formidable aura.

“This man... I am guessing he must be the leader of the Thousand Gold Association, Xia Wanjin...”

This time, even without Liu Yi’s aid, Lin Dong was able to deduce the man’s identity. In Yan City, the only people who dared to speak with Yue Shan in such a manner was probably the Thousand Gold Association’s leader, Xia Wan Jin, and Yan City Governor, Shi Haotian...

“Two Perfect Yuan Dan Stage practitioners...”

As he gazed at the two imposing figures, a small fire was lit up inside Lin Dong's heart. After all, he could have never hoped to meet such powerful practitioners in Qingyang Town...

Yue Shan glanced at Xia Wanjing, before he waved his hand and said: "Let's cut the bullshit. Since we have all arrived, let's begin. If we drag on any further, the energy within the Celestial Dan Pool will be gone..."

Chapter 111: Celestial Pool Battle

Hearing Yue Shan's words, Xia Wanjin merely laughed as his eyes shifted towards the approaching Xuan Su and her party. His gaze swept over them but suddenly stopped at Lin Dong's body. Slightly stunned, he asked: "Xuan Su, Song Qing did not come?"

"We made a last-minute switch." Xuan Su gently smiled as she said.

Upon having heard what was said, Xia Jinshan could not help let out a bitter laugh as his eyes scanned across Lin Dong's body. One could tell that he was slightly suspicious of this unfamiliar person.

"Father, stop looking. Even though Lin Dong isn't very strong, at least he managed to defeat Song Qing. Therefore, it's only natural for him to replace Song Qing." To one side, Xia Zhilan intervened and said.

"Oh?" Xia Wanjin's eyebrows raised before he smiled kindly towards Lin Dong. If that was the case, then it was alright.

"You all should recognize two of the three members the Blood Wolf Gang appointed, the siblings Yue Feng and Yue Ling. Currently, both of them are at Heavenly Yuan Late Stage, similar to Zhilan and Liu Yi. Thus, it's hard to tell who would emerge victorious in the end."

"What about the remaining one?" Xia Zhilan was not too surprised as she opened her mouth to ask.

“Rumours claim that he is a follower of the Blood Wolf Gang. However, he is not as well-known. Based on my observations, he should be at Heavenly Yuan Middle Stage. A pretty impressive foe.” Xia Jinshan answered.

“Oh...”

Upon hearing these words, Xia Zhilan, Xuan Su and the rest stealthily heaved a sigh of relief. Heavenly Yuan Middle Stage. Lin Dong should be able to handle it since he managed to defeat Song Qing previously.

While they were conversing, the Blood Wolf Gang crowd split open as three figures strolled forward and finally stopped to stand behind Yue Shan.

Lin Dong took the opportunity to take a glance, quickly spotting two males and one female. One of the two males was dressed in white and looked quite handsome, wearing a seemingly gentle smile on his face. He appeared rather out-of-place as he stood amongst the fearsome Blood Wolf Gang, causing him to be exceedingly eye-catching.

The other man was dressed in grey and had an ordinary appearance. Beside the man in white, the duo were like two extremes. As he stood there, the man in grey looked exactly like a common bodyguard.

However, when Lin Dong’s gaze swept across that man in grey,

he did not know why but his eyebrows slightly furrowed.

With regards to the remaining lady, she was quite beautiful. However, compared to Xia Zhilan, she was still a little lacking. At best, her beauty was at the same level as Xie Yingying.

“The man in white is Yue Feng, the son of the Yue Shan. Right now, he is at Heavenly Yuan Late Stage and is fairly renowned in Yan City. The lady is his younger sister Yue Ling. Both of them are highly talented and her strength is similar to her brother’s. Meanwhile, with regards to the last person, he should be someone recruited by the Blood Wolf Gang. Heavenly Yuan Middle Stage. That’s not too bad...” Liu Yi smiled as he informed to Lin Dong.

Lin Dong lightly nodded in reply before he turned to glance at the unremarkable man in grey. When he could not detect anything extraordinary about the latter, he finally retracted his gaze.

“Let’s cut the crap. Which one of you is first?”

While Lin Dong was sizing up the trio, the seemingly haughty Yue Ling grasped a long red whip as she took two steps forward, curled her lips and said while looking at Lin Dong and the rest.

When they saw that Yue Ling had went up, the crowd from the Thousand Gold Association turned their gazes towards Xia Zhilan. The latter took a brief glance at the former before walking forward, chuckling: “Why are you in such a hurry to lose?”

“Heh, Xia Zhilan, don’t cry when I ruin your pretty face later...” Yue Ling retorted. Her haughtiness seemed even more extreme than Xia Zhilan’s.

These two women already had a previous grudge. Furthermore, since the Thousand Gold Association and the Blood Wolf Gang were not on friendly terms, once they met each other, they naturally started fighting.

“If both side are ready, let this Celestial Pool Battle begin!”

When they saw the two women enter the arena, the rest of the crowd swiftly retreated. In the blink of an eye, a large open space was created.

“Humph!”

Just as the voice faded, a powerful Yuan Power almost simultaneously exploded from within these two women. The strong and fierce Yuan Power was almost like a hurricane as it swept away all the surrounding leaves on the ground.

“Swish!”

Like a fiery python, the fiery-red whip almost instantaneously darted through the air, swiftly lashing at Xia Zhilan.

In the face of Yue Ling’s merciless attack, Xia Zhilan snorted. Her jade-like hands grasped onto a fiery-red sword that flashed into

existence as she retreated backwards with light steps and began crossing blows with Yue Ling.

Both women were at Heavenly Yuan Late Stage and they could be considered as well-known figures among the Yan City younger generation members. Therefore, their duel was fairly exciting. The shadow of the sword danced in tune with the wind from the whip, the resulting shockwaves causing crack after crack to emerge on the ground.

Lin Dong carefully observed this intense battle. Moments later, he slowly retracted his gaze. Even though they were both at Heavenly Yuan Late Stage, it was evident that Xia Zhilan had a slight advantage over that Yue Ling in terms of Yuan Power. At the beginning, it may not matter much. However, as the duel persisted, the difference would gradually begin to manifest itself.

For this duel, Xia Zhilan's odds of victory should be slightly higher.

Just as Lin Dong predicted, as the two continued their evenly matched exchange, Yue Ling's blows gradually began to falter while Xia Zhilan's attacks only grew in intensity.

“Victory...”

Lin Dong softly muttered in his heart. Soon after, a metallic sound echoed out as the whip in Yue Ling's hand was flicked away with a deft blow from the sword after Xia Zhilan spotted a suitable opening. Meanwhile, her sword stopped right in front of Yue Ling.

“The first round goes to the Thousand Gold Association!”

The judges invited from Yan City by the two factions shouted out together.

After hearing these words, Xia Zhilan slightly smiled as she turned to glance at the ashen-faced Yue Ling before promptly turning around and returning to the Thousand Gold Association camp.

“Yue Ling, come back.”

With regards to Yue Ling’s loss, the Blood Wolf Gang leader, Yue Shan, was not too surprised as he muttered in an indifferent voice. Then, turning to the young man dressed in white standing beside him, he said: “Feng-er, it’s your turn.”

“Yes.”

Yue Feng smiled as he nodded his head and strolled forward, his eyes casually sweeping up and down Lin Dong’s body before turning to Liu Yi: “Liu Yi, it’s your turn...”

When he heard Yue Feng’s challenge, Liu Yi reluctantly sighed and walked forward, stopping before the former. His hands grasped onto a fine steel spear he retrieved from his Qiankun bag as he heavily stomped on the floor: “Do give me some pointers!”

It must be said that there was indeed a good reason why Liu Yi was so highly valued by Manger Su, Xia Zhilan and the rest. Even without talking about his strength, just his character alone was already one that caused others to nod in approval.

Yue Feng smiled in an indifferent manner as a dark-red spear also quickly emerged. He jerked his arm, brandishing his spear as sparks flew, inadvertently showing that he had a pretty good mastery over the spear.

When he saw Yue Feng's spear techniques, Liu Yi's facial expression turned serious. After all, he knew how strong his opponent was. In Yan City, the number of younger generation members that could defeat Yue Feng were very few indeed...

“Let the second match begin!”

Just as the judge's voice rang out, Yue Feng's expression almost instantaneously turned as sharp as a knife. The spear in his hand trembled as several spear attacks thrust towards multiple vital spots on Liu Yi's body.

“Clang clang!”

Faced with Yue Feng's formidable offensive, Liu Yi did not dare to relax. The long spear in his hand was just like an enraged python as it snaked forward and actually managed to deflect Yue Feng's attack. However, the powerful force resulting from the collision of the two spears caused his expression to slightly darken.

Compared to the previous fight between Xia Zhilan and Yue Ling, this duel was evidently more thrilling. Both parties were spear using experts. The after-images of the deadly spear attacks seem to fill the skies, causing a stifling atmosphere ripple outwards.

Glued onto the scene of the two figures that caused sparks to fly at every exchange, several faces in the Thousand Gold Association were filled with anxiety. If Liu Yi could defeat Yue Feng in this round, their Thousand Gold Association would emerge victorious in this Celestial Pool Battle!

Lin Dong's attention was also focused on the two fierce dueling figures. This was the first time he had witnessed such a spectacular fight between younger generation members. Compared to them, Lei Li and the rest from Qingyang Town were hardly noteworthy.

“Clang clang clang!”

The two spears seemed to have lives of their own as they constantly collided in mid-air and sparks continuously emerged.

“Ding!”

The tips of both spears smashed against each other as a sharp and clear sound rang out. Both spears slightly curled as they were jolted backwards, the rebounding force causing the two to retreat a step back.

“Buzz!”

Just as his body fell backwards, Yue Feng's expression changed. Rapidly taking two steps forward, his arm began to vibrate at an extremely violent pace.

Thanks to this vibration, the air surrounding him began to whistle. Visible to the naked eye, countless spear images began to condense into a tornado of spears. Under the infusion of Yuan Power, a palpitating aura began to emerge from the epicenter.

“Heavy Shadow Spear, Level 4 Martial Arts...”

As they gazed at Yue Feng's formidable attack, the expressions of several people on the side of the Thousand Gold Association changed. Even Manger Su's beautiful face sunk slightly.

“Heavy Shadow Spear has four layers. Each layer is more powerful than the one before. I've heard that Yue Feng is able to utilize the first three layers. The power generated by his blows is unmatched by any of the younger generation members...”

When he heard Xia Wanjin's words, Lin Dong secretly nodded his head. He was also able to sense how powerful this spear attack was. If he was the one facing it, he would probably have to utilize the third layer of Wonder Gate Seal in order to match up.

“Clang!”

In the same instance as those words were uttered, Yue Feng's

whirlwind-like spear viciously exploded forward like a solid pillar of wind before it heavily slammed into Liu Yi's spear, which was now being fortified by all his Yuan Power.

A loud and powerful sound echoed out as a ferocious gale spread outwards, causing even the soil in the ground to be forcefully blown away. Meanwhile, Liu Yi was forced to retreat several steps. However, before he could catch his breath, that formidable and oppressive attack once again arrived, forcing him to continue warding off the successive blow with all his might.

“Clang!”

“Clang!”

After two loud and clear echos, everyone in the Thousand Gold Association felt their hearts skip a beat. They could see that after he intercepted Yue Feng's three Heavy Shadow Spear attacks, the area between Liu Yi's thumb and forefinger had split open as fresh blood continuously flowed out.

“If it's only three blows, Liu Yi can still fight...”

As they witnessed this scene, Xia Wanjin and the rest lightly breathed a sigh of relief. However, before they could exhale, they suddenly saw Yue Feng release an odd laugh, the spear in his hand jolting forward as a whirlwind quickly condensed. Like a thunderbolt, it ruthlessly slammed onto Liu Yi's spear.

“Creak!”

After this powerful attack, Liu Yi could no longer endure. He spat out a mouthful of fresh blood and even the metal spear in his hand was forcefully bent.

Gazing at Liu Yi, who was forced dozens of steps back before he finally stabilized himself, Xia Wanjin's, Xuan Su's and the rest's hearts sunk. They never expected that Yue Feng had actually mastered all four layers of Heavy Shadow Spear...

Thus, in this round, the Blood Wolf Sect managed to equalize the score.

At this thought, everyone's gazes almost simultaneous turned and looked towards Lin Dong...

Chapter 112: The Last Duel

One win and one loss.

The atmosphere immediately turned somewhat tense as numerous gazes started to look towards the two who had yet to make their appearance: Lin Dong and the man in grey.

“Lin Dong, it’s your turn... you should be able to do it right?”

Currently, the worry on Xia Zhilan’s pretty face had deepened by quite a bit. She eyed Lin Dong with a somewhat complicated expression. If Lin Dong lost this match, their Thousand Gold Association would be fated to lose the ‘Celestial Dan Pool’.

Lin Dong’s lips slightly pursed as he stared unblinkingly at the ordinary and calm face of the man in grey and softly replied: “I will do my best.”

“That fellow’s strength should not be that much different from Song Qing’s. Victory should not be hard if you make use of the ability you brought out to defeat Song Qing from before.” Xia Zhilan said in a low voice.

“Perhaps...” Lin Dong acknowledged her words, declining to comment any further. He had a feeling that this seemingly ordinary fellow was not as simple as he looked.

“Young friend, looks like the outcome of this Celestial Pool Battle

will be determined by you.” Xia Wanjin said as he slightly smiled at Lin Dong.

“President Xia, this young one will give his best.” Lin Dong clasped his hands together respectfully, without any further words, he strolled into the arena.

“Xuan Su, this person that you found...is he reliable?” Gazing at Lin Dong’s back, Xia Wanjin’s eyebrow lightly furrowed as he inquired in a low voice.

“You should know how important the ‘Celestial Dan Pool’ is. If our Thousand Gold Association is able to obtain the ‘Celestial Dan Pool’, Zhilan would then be able to break through to Yuan Dan Stage within two years. Furthermore, the remaining energy can be used to nurture several Yuan Dan Stage practitioners. This would cause our Thousand Gold Association’s power to explode!”

“Compared to Song Qing, he is more reliable.” Xuan Su smiled indifferently, her answer rather vague. Since the end result had yet to be established, it would not be appropriate for her to make any definite statements.

“Let’s hope so.” Xia Wanjin clearly understood the temperament of his wife’s younger sister and could only helplessly nod his head. After all, at this juncture, could he still find a last-minute replacement?

When Lin Dong walked into the arena, many gazes from the Blood Wolf Gang faction concentrated on his body. Yet, these gazes

were all a little puzzled. Evidently they were unable to recognize this unfamiliar face.

“I remember the last member should be Song Qing from the Song Family. Since when did it change to this person?” Beside Yue Shan, a lean elderly man commented in a low voice.

“It doesn’t matter.”

Yue Shan casually shook his head before turning his gaze towards the man in grey who had yet to speak: “Jiang Li, it’s your turn.”

“Yes.” The man who was called Jiang Li maintained an impassive look on his face as he nodded before saying: “Remember our agreement.”

“Haha, worry not. If my Blood Wolf Gang is able to obtain this ‘Celestial Dan Pool’, the reward promised to you will not be lacking!” Yue Shan smiled and said.

Upon hearing these words, Jiang Li finally smiled as he walked into the arena at a pace that was neither fast nor slow. He stopped in front of Lin Dong and lowered his head to adjust his sleeves before he said in a cold voice: “I never engage in friendly spars. In this duel, I will not show any mercy, if you are not prepared, perhaps it would be better to leave.”

“Many thanks for your warning.”

Lin Dong smiled and cupped his hands together but did not retreat. He then extended an arm: “Please!”

Jiang Li lifted his head and glanced at Lin Dong, a strange expression on his face as he softly sighed before his extremely long and skinny palms stretched forward.

“If that is so...don’t blame me for being merciless...”

After hearing Jiang Li softly mumble to himself, just as Lin Dong was about to reply, his pupils suddenly contracted. Before his eyes, a number of fingers penetrated through the air in a flash like knives as they shot towards Lin Dong’s throat.

Around the unusually long fingers, a strong and extremely condensed Yuan Power undulated as tiny whirlwinds quickly gathered at the fingertips. The might of one finger was enough to pierce through steel.

“Such a strong finger technique!” Outside the arena, the crowd were inevitably amazed by Jiang Li’s attack.

Faced with Jiang Li’s attack, Lin Dong’s expression turned serious. His eyes locked onto the incoming finger attack until the former was only a few feet away before he abruptly lashed out like a patiently waiting leopard.

Lin Dong’s palms were wrapped with Yuan Power as they slid past Jiang Li’s fingers by a hair’s breadth and then slapped

downwards, heavily slapping on the back of the latter's hand. A skillful utilization of energy directly neutralizing Jiang Li's attack.

Thanks to the ability of Mental Energy to sense even the most minute of details, Lin Dong could clearly grasp the variations in Jiang Li's finger technique. This was why he was able to easily disperse the other party's attack at such a critical moment.

“Chi chi!”

Yet, Jiang Li was obviously not an ordinary individual. When his attack was neutralized, he neither retreated nor advanced. Ten fingers danced in the air as ominous attacks flew towards Lin Dong's body like a torrential rain, intent on doing grievous harm.

“Pa pa pa pa...”

As Jiang Li's attack suddenly jumped in intensity, Lin Dong again chose not to retreat. Changing to a fist style, crisp sounds immediately echoed out.

Lin Dong's mastery of Penetrating Fist had already reached towering heights. When he utilized it, a series of solid punches were performed. Though the punches were plain and ordinary, they were delivered with a unique grace.

This unique grace caused amazement to be exposed on Xie Wanjin's and the rest's faces. Even though Penetrating Fist was only an ordinary Level 1 Martial Arts, there were very few people

who could master it to such a level.

A torrent of fist images seemed to fill the sky, like a steel wall, regardless of how Jiang Li's finger technique thrust out at tricky and ruthless angles, he was not able to gain even the slightest advantage.

"Father, Jiang Li does not seem to have the upper hand?" As he observed the duel, Yue Feng's eyebrows furrowed as he softly asked. He did not understand why Yue Shan had such confidence in that person.

"Just keep watching..." Yue Shan chuckled. He did not seem too worried. Looks like he really had a great deal of confidence in Jiang Li.

"Screech!"

A deadly finger-wind attack scratched Lin Dong's fist with an ear-piercing screech. Even though it left a shallow line of blood, it was clearly only a minor physical wound.

Just as Jiang Li's fingertips scratched him, Lin Dong's fist also landed on his chest. Even though the blow was softened by the latter's Yuan Power, which was protecting his body, the attack still caused Jiang Li to fall half a step back.

"Bang!"

Jolted half a step back, Jiang Li quickly stabilized his body. He stared at Lin Dong and licked his lips as a blood thirsty glint flashed in his eyes.

Just as that blood-thirsty glint appeared, a strong Yuan Power undulation that seemed to have been suppressed for a long time almost instantaneously exploded from within Jiang Li's body.

That Yuan Power undulation and aura did not lose out to Yue Feng and Xia Zhilan!

“Heavenly Yuan Late Stage!”

When they saw Jiang Li's sudden surge in power, on the side of the Thousand Gold Association, several expressions changed as they shouted out in shock.

“He has indeed hidden his strength...” Xia Wanjin eyebrows tightly knitted together. It seems like the worst case scenario had indeed materialized. This time, it seems like the Blood Wolf Gang had somehow managed to find a young expert.

Thanks to this unforeseen development, Xia Zhilan and the rest, who were standing to one side, gripped their fists as their hearts sunk.

“Heavenly Yuan Late Stage...”

Lin Dong's expression was slightly rippled. However, he did not

feel too surprised. Immediately, he took a few steps forward, two of his fingers slightly curled as an exceptionally powerful Yuan Power swiftly condensed and took shape. Like a sword's edge, in a blink of an eye, he immediately jabbed at Jiang Li whose power had greatly increased.

“Bang!”

Faced with Lin Dong's assault, Jiang Li merely chuckled. Harboring no intention to retreat, his exceptionally long fingers immediately thrust towards Lin Dong's deadly finger attack.

As these four fingers met, a strong Yuan Power undulation exploded out almost instantly.

“Buzz!”

In that same instance, just as Jiang Li was planning to exert more force to break Lin Dong's fingers, he suddenly saw Lin Dong's eyes light up as a formless wave darted towards him in a flash.

“Mental Energy?!”

As he sensed that incoming wave, Jiang Li was stunned. He immediately utilized the Yuan Power in his body to form a protective shield.

“Buzz!”

Even though he managed to lay down his defences in time, Jiang Li had evidently underestimated the strength of Lin Dong's Mental Energy. The needle-like Mental Energy forcefully tore apart the Yuan Power shield upon contact. Even though its magnitude was reduced by several times, the remaining Mental Energy wave still managed to reach Jiang Li's mind. Immediately, a violent pain emerged in his head.

“Such powerful Mental Energy!”

As a sharp pain emerged in his head, Jiang Li was both shocked and angry. He finally understood that he was not the only one who had hidden his strength. This unfamiliar person had also held back!

“Bang!”

While Jiang Li's head was aching, the additional force he was just about to exert dissipated. In turn, Lin Dong's finger attack made use of this sudden opportunity. Strength exploded force as he suddenly jabbed forward, a powerful force heavily transmitting through Jiang Li's fingers!

“Snap!”

That powerful force was just like a tidal wave as Jiang Li's fingers went crooked. Evidently, the bones in his fingers were broken after this forceful collision.

Furthermore, this powerful impact also caused Jiang Li to be directly blown away before he slammed heavily into a giant rock. The resulting force causing even tiny cracks to emerge on that giant rock.

“Victory!”

When they saw this dramatic reversal, celebratory calls immediately exploded from the Thousand Gold Association faction’s side, even Xia Zhilan, like the rest, had a happy expression on her pretty face.

“It’s not over yet...”

While they were rejoicing, Xia Wanjin solemnly shook his head as he said.

Upon hearing his words, Xia Zhilan and the rest were stunned. Immediately, they turned to look at that slightly ragged Jiang Li, only to see the latter gradually rising up. Meanwhile, a thick bloody mist gushed out from his pores. Like blood, it had a pungent bloody smell.

Jiang Li slowly climbed up. He stared maliciously at Lin Dong, who had his eyebrows furrowed, and said in a coarse voice: “To be able to push me this far, you are indeed capable. However, it should be time to finish this...”

Chapter 113: Blood Transformation Art

A bloody mist continuously sprayed out from Jiang Li's body. In the end, this blood mist slowly pulled back and condensed to form a thin blood-red layer on surface of Jiang Li's body. Both his palms were also wrapped in a layer of blood and at the tip of his fingers, sharp-pointed ends made of blood protruded out as they glimmered with a cold light.

These transformations were completed in a very brief period and when the bloody mist had all gathered and condensed into a layer of blood, Jiang Li's aura once again continued to soar under the shocked gazes of the crowd.

The current Jiang Li was already at Heavenly Yuan Late Stage. Another leap in power after this stage would be Initial Yuan Dan Stage. A level that is entirely different from that of the Heavenly Yuan Stage!

"This is..." Xuan Su's pretty face looked towards Jiang Li as his body was slowly being surrounded by a layer of blood. As if something had suddenly struck her, a trace of astonishment flashed into her eyes.

"Blood Conversion Art." To one side, Xia Wanjin said in a low voice.

"Blood Transformation Art?" Xia Zhilan and the rest were stunned.

“An extremely vicious and cruel secret art. When activated, it can evaporate the blood within the body, causing one’s strength to swell for a short time. However, the repercussions are very severe, After Jiang Li has used it, he would probably have to recuperate for at least half a year before he recovers!” Xia Wanjin slowly explained.

“How far will Jiang Li’s strength rise?” Xia Zhilan hastily asked.

“Likely the Initial Yuan Dan Stage.” Xia Wanjin let out a bitter laugh as he replied.

“Initial Yuan Dan Stage...”

Upon hearing these words, Xia Zhilan’s and the rest’s faces instantly turned pale. Everyone knew about the huge gap between the Heavenly Yuan Stage and the Initial Yuan Dan Stage. They were able to be hopeful that Lin Dong would be able to contend against the Heavenly Yuan Late Stage Jiang Li by some fluke or chance. Yet, they were unable to imagine how Lin Dong would be able to defeat a Jiang Li who had now rose to the Initial Yuan Dan Stage.

Defeating Jiang Li would not be possible even for them.

“This time, we’re going to lose...” Their previous joy had been completely obliterated. Xia Zhilan and the rest were like eggplants that had been beaten by the frost, immediately turning dispirited.

When she saw their low morale, Xuan Su also helplessly sighed. No one had ever expected that among the three duels, the one most unremarkable Jiang Li was actually the strongest person. It was no wonder that Yue Shan had not lost his composure from start to end. He had known everything from the beginning.

“So he actually had such a skill. Father is brilliant indeed.” On the Blood Wolf Gang’s side, Yue Feng likewise had a look of amazement as he stared at Jiang Li, whose body was entirely covered in blood, as he said, his voice coloured with hints of amazement and joy.

“Jiang Li was a helper that I took great pains to find. After he activates the Blood Transformation Art, he will reach the Initial Yuan Dan level. Although this power cannot be considered top-tier in Yan City, for the younger generation like you, it is a matchless existence. The Celestial Dan Pool belongs to our Blood Wolf Gang...” Yue Shan smiled and said.

“However, the ability of that young one to push Jiang Li to this step is also out of my expectations. I can tell that the attack he used before contained traces of Mental Energy. He is likely a Symbol Master. The Thousand Gold Association is rather capable after all...”

“But even so, their loss is already determined!” Yue Feng softly chuckled.

“Ha ha!”

...

“No wonder I had a weird feeling, this was the reason...”

While both factions were still shocked by Jiang Li's transformation, Lin Dong was also surprised as his eyebrows raised. This was the first time he had encountered this kind of self-destructive method that allowed one to raise one's strength for a short period.

“Initial Yuan Dan Stage...”

Lin Dong pursed his lips. Truthfully, this was the first time he had truly fought against an enemy of this level. Although he had killed the 2nd Seal Symbol Master, Gu Ying, in Qingyang Town previously, it was largely by luck. If the latter had not recklessly summoned his Destiny Symbol and Lin Dong's Destiny Soul Symbol was not coincidentally a little eccentric and straightaway almost sucked dry all of the Mental Energy from both of Gu Ying's Destiny Symbols, even if Lin Dong could somehow defeat Gu Ying, in the end, Lin Dong would definitely be unable to kill Gu Ying so easily.

A 2nd Seal Symbol Master had the power to contest against an Initial Yuan Dan Stage expert, however, this was the first time Lin Dong had the chance to fight with an Initial Yuan Dan Stage practitioner.

Yet, Lin Dong's training over this period was naturally not just for show. Currently, even without the aid of his Destiny Soul

Symbol's extraordinary sucking ability, he had the power to achieve a genuine victory over Gu Ying. Thus, the current Lin Dong was not afraid of an Initial Yuan Dan Stage practitioner.

“To be able to push me to this far, you should have no regrets even if you die...”

While Lin Dong's gaze flickered, Jiang Li's body had already been completely covered by that thin layer of blood. A scarlet pair of eyes stared at Lin Dong like a wild beast.

Under the watchful gaze of this scarlet pair of eyes, Lin Dong also turned vigilant. He was able to feel a dangerous aura from Jiang Li's body.

“Bang!”

With both scarlet eyes fixed on Lin Dong, Jiang Li suddenly stomped. His body transformed into a red shadow as it violently burst forward. This speed was much faster compared to before.

The red shadow reflected in his eyes rapidly grew. With a serious expression on his face, Lin Dong was able to figure out the trajectory of Jiang Li's body using perceptive powers of his Mental Energy. As a result, he immediately shifted one step to the side.

“Swish!”

In the instance when Lin Dong's body shifted, a red flash

streaked across the spot he had occupied just a moment before. A terrifying energy tinged with the pungent smell of blood opened up a crack several feet deep in the ground.

“Humph!”

His first strike hitting nothing but air, the red in Jiang Li’s eyes grew even darker as the blood stingers which condensed on his fingers straightaway thrust forward. Their target, was Lin Dong’s throat. As expected, this fellow was ruthless.

The speed of Jiang Li’s attack was clearly incomparable to before. In a flash of red, the attack approached Lin Dong’s throat. Just as it was about to pierce through, Lin Dong’s figure abruptly floated backwards through the air. Taking a closer look, it turned out that two shadows were floating under Lin Dong’s feet, supporting his body.

With the aid of Mental Energy, Lin Dong’s movements became extremely nimble. He swiftly retreated out of Jiang Li’s attack range while the Destiny Soul Symbol in his Niwan palace trembled violently. Threads of strong Mental Energy quickly condensed before him.

The formless Mental Energy rapidly gathered. In the blink of an eye, it took the shape of a spinning cone!

“Such strong Mental Energy!”

Upon seeing that Lin Dong could actually manipulate Mental Energy to this extent, Xia Wanjin and Yue Shan were both slightly surprised. It was exceedingly difficult for a normal 1st Seal Symbol Master to condense Mental Energy and give it shape.

Likewise, Jiang Li could also sense the power of the Mental Energy Lin Dong had condensed. A trace of seriousness flashed across the scarlet pair of eyes. Immediately, his footsteps stopped as his hand slapped onto a small protruding bump on his chest. After which, the layer of blood that covered his body slowly dispersed.

As the layer of blood dispersed, threads of blood started to gather at Jiang Li's palm. Immediately, his arm grew scarlet and hideous, as if it was the blood-red arm of asura.

The blood-arm condensed and assembled. Without giving Lin Dong anytime to prepare, Jiang Li's knee's slightly bent before quickly dashing towards Lin Dong like an evil wolf.

“Blood Transformation: Arm!”

A shout sounded out as a blood-red light exploded on the mountain top. Immediately, a blood-red mark that was several feet large appeared on Jiang Li's palm.

“Piercing Helicity!”

Gazing at the bloody aura that was speedily rushing towards him,

a harsh light flitted across Lin Dong's eyes. With a low shout, the tornado-like cone of Mental Energy wave before him started to spin before finally zipping forward like a poison dragon boring into the ground!

Under the shocked gazes of the crowd, the bloody light and tornado-like Mental Energy wave directly clashed together in mid-air.

“Bang!”

A loud noise thundered across the mountain top as a violent gale burst outwards, jolting some of the nearby trees until they were forcefully uprooted.

The crowd endured the gale as it blew past, their gazes fixed unblinkingly on a spot in the air. There, the bloody light and the Mental Energy wave exploded after a split second!

“Boom!”

A figure violently flew out from the explosion, a groan leaking from his lips. His complexion was scarily pale and blood continuously flowed from the corners of his mouth. In the end, he smashed through a few trees before crashed into the ground and slowly coming to a halt.

“Jiang Li!”

Watching the sorry figure finally come to a stop on the ground, everyone almost instantly concentrated their gazes on it. When they saw that ragged and pale face, each and every one of them involuntarily cried out. Within their voices was a trace of incredulousness.

As these cries rang out, Jiang Li's complexion flushed red and he spurted out a mouthful of blood. Soon after, a fierce look flitted across his eyes, however, just as he was about to struggle to stand up, a black shadow flickered and an icy pressure attacked him. Immediately, his body froze, not daring to move an inch.

When his body went rigid, Jiang Li's gaze slowly shifted down towards the two sharp shrapnel that were suspended at his throat. He swallowed hard, he did not have the slightest doubt that if he made any more movements, those sharp shrapnel would pierce through his throat in an instant.

From their previous exchange, he knew that this opponent of his was likewise no naive fool.

As they gazed at sight of Jiang Li who kept very still as the two shrapnel pressed against his throat, the mountain top lapsed into a brief moment of silence. Xia Zhilan and the rest had faces full of astonishment. They had never expected that even after Jiang Li had activated 'Blood Transformation Art' and greatly increased his strength, the outcome would turn out this way.

“Thud.”

While the mountain top was frozen in silence, a figure slowly landed on the ground before turning his gaze to the similarly stupefied judge, frowning as he asked: “Is the duel over?”

“Over, it’s over!”

Upon hearing his voice, the judge hastily nodded his head.

“The third round goes to the Thousand Gold Association!”

Chapter 114: Entering the Celestial Dan Pool

When the judges' voices echoed out on the mountain peak, both factions momentarily fell silent. Immediately, cheers erupted from the Thousand Gold Association's side.

This outcome had surpassed everyone's expectations!

No one had ever imagined that even after Jiang Li used "Blood Conversion Art" to forcefully upgrade his power to Initial Yuan Dan Stage, he would still be defeated by Lin Dong.

"Xuan Su, your judgement is great as always. Even though Lin Dong's innate Yuan Power isn't extremely strong, his Mental Energy is exceptionally powerful. Based on that Secret Spirit Art that he displayed at the end, he has probably advanced to the 2nd Seal Symbol Master level." Xia Wanjin's face was plastered with pride and joy over this unexpected victory as he turned to Xuan Su and smiled.

Upon hearing these words, Xuan Su gently smiled in response. Her beautiful face seemed calm, however in the sea of her heart, waves were raging.

According to Master Ruo, Lin Dong had only begun training his Mental Energy for a short period of time. However, the current him had already reached a level similar to a 2nd Seal Symbol Master. His progress... was simply incredulous!

"This boy's talent probably far exceeds Master Ruo's

expectations. His achievements in the future will definitely be extremely terrifying...” A glint flashed in Xuan Su’s beautiful eyes. Right now, Lin Dong’s strength could not be considered top-tier in Yan City, however his potential was simply unmatched!

Even if they could not recruit him, they definitely must not offend him.

Xuan Su had always been fairly confident in her judgement.

“This fellow has hidden himself so well.” Xia Zhilan glanced at the ragged figure of Jiang Li, before she turned to look at the young man, who emitted a strong pressure while standing in the middle of the arena as her face involuntarily turned slightly red.

Of course, this was not a sign of affection. Rather, Xia Zhilan had recalled all the harsh words that she had spoken to Lin Dong, such as ‘boasting about the two consecutive victories’ and ‘emphasizing that he was merely a stand in...’

As she observed the situation now and recalled her words, Xia Zhilan’s face began to feel slightly warm. In fact, it was almost like she had slapped her own face rather soundly.

...

“We lost...”

While the Thousand Gold Association was rejoicing, over at

Blood Wolf Gang, it suddenly became extremely quiet. Meanwhile, Yue Shan and the rest's faces turned exceedingly grim.

Originally, they thought that they would easily win this round. However, the final outcome had completely surprised them!

“Seems like that kid is the real trump card of the Thousand Gold Association.” Beside Yue Shan, a hideous looking elderly man let out a bitter laugh as he muttered softly.

“Where did that kid come from?”

Yue Feng furrowed his eyebrows as he asked, a hint of coldness in his voice. In Yan City, he could be considered as one of the elite younger generation members. However, even he did not have the confidence that he could defeat an Initial Yuan Dan Stage practitioner. Yet, Lin Dong, who looked even younger, was able to accomplish such a feat. This caused a hint of resentment and jealousy to surface in his heart.

“I do not know. He is very unfamiliar. Perhaps, he is not from our Yan City.”

Upon hearing Yue Feng's conversation, Yue Shan narrowed his eyes as he stared at Lin Dong. Meanwhile, a cold glint flashed in his pupils.

“Sect leader Yue Shan, now that the results have been announced. Thank you.” When he saw Yue Shan staring at Lin

Dong, Xia Wanjin casually smiled as he cupped his hands and said.

“Heh heh, President Xia seems to have found a good helper.” Yue Shan chuckled.

“Likewise to you. However, now that our Thousand Gold Association has achieved two out of three victories, this ‘Celestial Dan Pool’ belongs to our faction. With regards to this fact, Sect leader Yue should have no objections right?” Xia Wanjin smiled as he said.

When he heard these words, Yue Shan and the rest involuntarily clenched their fists. Yue Feng and Yue Ling were even more disgruntled. After all, this Celestial Dan Pool was exceedingly useful for Heavenly Yuan Late Stage practitioners like them. If they could absorb the energy within, then the time needed for them to advance to Yuan Dan Stage will shrink by several times!

When they saw the actions of the Blood Wolf Sect, several experts at the Thousand Gold Association began to tense up as their hands slowly extended to the weapons strapped at their waist.

“What? Sect Leader Yue Shan does not want to admit his loss? Today’s matter is well-known among Yan City’s factions. If news of this event spread out, it might hurt the Blood Wolf Gang’s reputation. That’s not good at all.” Xia Wanjin’s face remained calm as he stared at Yue Shan and casually said.

Yue Shan’s facial expression was in a constant flux. Moments

later, he chuckled and said: “Worry not, my Blood Wolf Gang can afford this loss.”

“Father!” When he heard these words, Yue Feng yelled out unhappily.

“Leave!”

As Yue Shan commanded in an unwavering voice he waved his hand and instructed two men to support the ragged Jiang Li. Then, he immediately led the rest of his troops and headed down the mountain. Just as he passed by Lin Dong, he suddenly stopped and turned to look at the latter. Suddenly, with a smile, he said: “This young man is indeed powerful. Our Blood Wolf Gang deserves this loss. In the future, if you are interested, you are welcome to come to our Blood Wolf Gang. I will definitely treat you with the utmost respect!”

“Thank you for the offer, Sect Leader Yue Shan.”

Faced with this elite practitioner from Yan City, Lin Dong did not dare to be slow as he quickly cupped his hands and smiled. When his gaze met Yue Shan’s, he felt his heart shiver. From the latter’s eyes, he could detect a hint of coldness. It seems like contrary to this appearance, this Yue Shan was not as savage as he seemed. In fact, this man was quite cunning.

After he made this customary greeting, Yue Shan could not be bothered to speak any further. He lifted his leg and left. Behind him, Yue Feng and the rest turned to glare at Lin Dong before they

also left.

With regards to their stares, Lin Dong chose to ignore them. Even though his actions may have offended the Blood Wolf Gang, that was the price to pay to obtain the “Celestial Dan Pool”. In fact, he could also use this opportunity to improve his relationship with Thousand Gold Association. Therefore, his overall gains probably exceed his losses.

As the Blood Wolf Gang left the mountain like a flood, the mountain peak suddenly became much emptier.

“Hehe, for this Celestial Pool Battle, we must sincerely thank this young one, Lin Dong, for your assistance.” After the Blood Wolf Gang withdrew, Xia Wanjin walked over and said with a smile. His attitude was undoubtedly much better than before.

“It is my duty after all.” Lin Dong smiled as he said.

“Don’t worry, since we have agreed to let you absorb the energy from the Celestial Dan Pool, we will not go back on it.” Xuan Su gently stepped forward as she smiled and said.

When he heard her words, Xia Wanjin was slightly taken aback. In the end, he did not speak any further. After all, the strength that Lin Dong had displayed indicated that he was a worthy member for them to recruit.

Xuan Su led the group as they approached the small pool near the

mountain walls. As they were approaching, Lin Dong could clearly feel a potent Yin and Yang Energy floating over the pool.

“When I first discovered this Celestial Dan Pool, there was an extremely powerful Demonic Beast guarding it. After a gruelling battle, not only was I unable to defeat it, but that Yue Shan also discovered it and rushed over. Finally, after the two of us joined forces, we were able to injure that Demonic Beast and chase it away. However, that was also the reason why we were forced to hold this Celestial Pool Battle.” Xia Wanjin stood beside the Celestial Dan Pool as he softly sighed.

“Oh?”

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong was slightly moved. What Demonic Beast was so powerful such that it actually required two Perfect Yuan Dan experts to force it to retreat.

“I have already measured the amount of energy in this Celestial Dan Pool and it should be sufficient for four people. Since Xuan Su has already promised Lin Dong, then naturally we will keep our word. How about this, the four people shall be Zhilan, Liu Yi, Lin Dong and Xia Shi.” As he stared at the Celestial Dan Pool, Xia Wanjin contemplated for a moment before he made his decision.

The first three people nominated had took part in the competition. For the last member, he was a fairly well-reputed member of Thousand Gold Association.

With regards to Lin Dong’s appointment, most of them did not

object. After all, if Lin Dong had not managed to pull an upset and defeat Jiang Li, the ones who were departing now would probably be their Thousand Gold Association.

Therefore, even Xia Zhilan did not dare to speak up. Evidently, she had acknowledged Lin Dong's strength and contributions.

“”The four of you can enter the Celestial Dan Pool together. Though it is not a large pool, it is exceedingly deep and cold in the deeper parts. It is best not to venture deeply. During this period of time, if any mishaps happen, we will be around to protect all of you.”

“With regards to how much energy you can absorb from this Celestial Dan Pool, it will depend on yourself.”

When they heard Xia Wanjin's words, the four of them nodded their heads. Then, with a slightly feverish look, they stared at the Yin and Yang energy rising from the pool.

“Haha, now that you have been informed, let's begin...” Xia Wanjin gently smiled before he sat down on a rock nearby. The rest of the Thousand Gold Association's troops began to disperse themselves as they stood guard nearby.

“Splash!”

The person who entered the pool first was naturally Xia Zhilan. Yuan Power undulated around her body, like a thin protective

layer, before she immediately leapt into the Celestial Dan Pool.

When Xia Zhilan jumped into the pool, a vortex immediately formed on the water's surface as streams of pure Yin and Yang Energy quickly gathered together. Evidently, the former had already begun absorbing the energy.

When they witnessed this sight, Liu Yi and that burly man known at Xia Shi immediately leapt into the pool. After all, the energy in the pool was limited and they did not want to lose out, that would be a tragedy.

When he saw their actions, Lin Dong involuntarily laughed. Then, following Xia Zhilan's example, he let Yuan Power spread out across his body before he leapt into the pool.

“Splash.”

As Lin Dong and the rest jumped in, that vortex on the Celestial Dan Pool began to grow as the sound of water churning began to spread out...

Chapter 115: Qi Gathering Mental Vortex

“Such a vigorous and pure Yin Yang Energy!”

As Lin Dong entered the ‘Celestial Dan Pool’, he immediately felt the vigorous energy that filled the pool. It was the first time Lin Dong had encountered an energy this potent.

“No wonder this ‘Celestial Dan Pool’ can greatly decrease the time to reach the Yuan Dan Stage...” Lin Dong suddenly had a flash of realization. His efforts this time had not been in vain.

“I need to hurry and absorb the energy here...”

Lin Dong’s gaze swept across his surroundings. In a distance, he saw Xia Zhilan and the other two floating in the pool. However, the three of them had long ago closed their eyes and entered a state of cultivation. Strong suction forces were constantly emitted from their bodies, which absorbed the vigorous Yin Yang energies into their bodies.

After seeing Xia Zhilan and the other two already racing against time to absorb the energy from the ‘Celestial Dan Pool’, Lin Dong no longer tarried and sat cross legged in the pool. He activated Qingyuan Art as the opened channels released a suction force, absorbing the pure and potent Yin Yang Energy.

It must be said that the energy of the ‘Celestial Dan Pool’ was at least several times more potent than the outside world. Lin Dong had only just started and he already felt gentle streams arise from

within the pool before finally following his opened channels to be absorbed into his body.

Under this infusion, Lin Dong could clearly feel the Yuan Power Qi bundle within his Dantian strengthen increasingly at an impressive speed.

“As expected of the ‘Celestial Dan Pool’...”

This sensation of feeling the Yuan Power within the Dantian increase little by little caused an uncontainable joy to surface on Lin Dong’s face. Yet this happiness did not last for long as his brow slightly furrowed. He had found out that the speed at which he absorbed the energy in the Celestial Dan Pool was actually slower than Xia Zhilan and the other two.

“This god damned Qingyuan Art, it’s too useless!”

After realizing this situation, Lin Dong could not help but feel a little angry. Only now did he discover how important a high tier Secret Art was. Even when he utilised ‘Qingyuan Art’ to its fullest, the speed at which it absorbed still could not match up to Xia Zhilan and the other two.

Under the awareness of his Mental Energy, he was able to find out that Xia Zhilan had a total of fifteen suction points while Liu Yi had twelve and even Xia Shi had ten. This meant that the Secret Arts they trained in could open at least ten channels. Compared to them, the seven channels of Lin Dong’s Qingyuan Art was really pathetic.

“Next time I must obtain a better Secret Art!”

Lin Dong clenched his teeth as he settled on this idea. No matter how expensive it was, he must definitely obtain a worthy Secret Art!

However, those were matters for next time. Currently, Lin Dong could only enjoy this pitiful absorption rate...

Fiercely glancing at Xia Zhilan and the other two, Lin Dong felt a little disgruntled. He had taken the huge risk of offending the Blood Wolf Gang to help out, thus, he did not want to lose out on the benefits from this Celestial Dan Pool.

“Heh heh, little one, do you want to absorb the Yin Yang Energy here faster?” While Lin Dong helplessly gnashed his teeth, a familiar voice suddenly sounded out in his mind.

The sudden arrival of the voice caused Lin Dong to be taken aback but he quickly clenched his right fist. That voice was clearly from the mysterious small marten within the Stone Talisman.

“Don’t make a fuss, if you want to converse with this grandfather marten, infuse your Mental Energy into the Stone Talisman.”

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong was stunned. Soon after, he sent a trace of Mental Energy into the Stone Talisman as he voiced out a thought: “You can help me?”

“Of course.” The small marten’s rude voice immediately replied.

“Why so nice?” Lin Dong was somewhat suspicious as he asked. Though this small marten had a mysterious origin, it was extremely cautious around him and had never taken the initiative to help him.

“Heh heh, grandfather marten is definitely not someone who wants to build good relations with others. I have a way to help you swiftly absorb the Yin Yang Energy here, yet, you must do me a favor later.” The small marten let out an eccentric laugh.

“Didn’t you say you do not have much power?” Lin Dong replied without batting an eyelid.

“I will merely give you a technique that can increase your absorption speed. The rest still depends on you.”

“What do you want me to help you with?” Lin Dong’s eyes turned and did not immediately agree.

“I can sense a little something deep beneath the pool, you will go and take a look later...” The small marten said.

“There was something? What is it?” Lin Dong was first stunned before he quickly inquired.

“I’m not too sure either, I can barely sense it. As for what it is, we will know later. Are you willing or not? If you tarry any further, the energy in this pool would probably be sucked away by the other three.” The small marten urged him.

Lin Dong’s expression slightly changed as he glanced at Lin Xia and the other two, who were greedily absorbing the energy in the Celestial Dan pool, before firmly nodding his head: “Alright, it’s a deal!”

“Buzz!”

In the instance when Lin Dong nodded, information suddenly appeared in his head.

Qi Gathering Mental Vortex, Secret Spirit Skill...

What appeared in Lin Dong’s mind was a Secret Spirit Skill, yet, he did not know what tier it was. Lin Dong mulled for a while when astonishment suddenly flashed across his eyes as he mumbled: “To think that Mental Energy could actually be used this way, it’s really an eye-opener...”

This so-called Qi Gathering Mental Vortex did not have any offensive powers but instead seemed to be purely supportive in nature. Its effect was to condense a Mental Energy whirlpool through a special method and this Mental Energy whirlpool had the power of absorption though Lin Dong did not how much better it was compared to his ‘Qingyuan Art’.

To condense a ‘Qi Gathering Mental Vortex’ was not difficult. However, he needed to make sure to the swirls matched-up to some particular acupuncture points. If he messed this up, it would disrupt the flow of Yuan Power in his body. Fortunately, the information from the small marten was extremely complete, thus Lin Dong did not end up injuring himself. He lightly inhaled as waves of strong Mental Energy gushed out from his Niwan Palace.

The Mental Energy gathered at a point to the upper right of his Dantian and under the control of Lin Dong, it condensed into a vortex.

Even with the detailed instructions, Lin Dong still failed the first two times. On his third try, he finally managed to successfully form a complete ‘Qi Gathering Mental Vortex’.

“Buzz!”

In the instance when the ‘Qi Gathering Mental Vortex’ was successfully formed, a humming noise immediately sounded out. As the vortex swirled, it emitted an extremely powerful suction force!

“Splash!”

When this suction force suddenly exploded out, the pool water around Lin Dong promptly whistled as streams of vigorous Yin and Yang Energy, that could be seen by the naked eye, swiftly bubbled out from the pool water before pouring into the Mental Energy whirlpool above Lin Dong’s Dantian like an unending stream.

In that same instance, the entire pool started to churn as a whirlpool formed around Lin Dong's body while he sat at the centre, swallowing the vigorous and pure energy.

“That guy!”

This abrupt change caused Xia Zhilan and the other two to be startled. When they saw Lin Dong practically plundering the energy in the Celestial Dan Pool, they were shocked. Xia Zhilan could not help but curse as the trio quickly increased the output of their Secret Art to the limit. According to this trend, if they did not hurry up and absorb, all the energy in the entire Celestial Dan Pool would be sucked clean by Lin Dong.

Yet, the trio's efforts were clearly no longer a threat to Lin Dong after he had utilised this 'cheating method'. Lin Dong ignored them as he urged on the Mental Energy whirlpool and greedily absorbed the energy in the Celestial Dan Pool.

Under this whale-like absorption, the Yuan Power Qi bundle in Lin Dong's Dantian strengthened at an almost insane rate.

And while the Yuan Energy within the Dantian swiftly strengthened, an extremely abundant energy also spread throughout Lin Dong's body...

“Heavenly Yuan Late Stage!”

When he sensed this sudden change within his body, delight bubbled in Lin Dong's heart. With the aid of the energy in the Celestial Dan Pool, he had finally successfully advanced to Heavenly Yuan Late Stage!

“Heh heh...”

Though he had successfully reached Heavenly Yuan Late Stage, Lin Dong did not plan to stop. Condensing a Yuan Dan was no easy matter and since there was such a good opportunity today, he naturally needed to make use of it and absorb even more of the pure Yin Yang Energy. This would greatly help him in shortening the time to condense a Yuan Dan and even upgrade the quality of the Yuan Dan formed!

This seemingly insatiable absorption continued for half an hour until Lin Dong felt that the Yuan Power Qi bundle in his Dantian was unable to strengthen any further. Only then did he grudgingly stop. With a flick of his mind, the Mental Energy whirlpool above his Dantian scattered. Although this ‘Qi Gathering Mental Vortex’ did not have any attacking capabilities, the amount in which it improved the cultivation of Yuan Power was not small.

“Brat, you’ve absorbed enough. Time to go down and take a look...” When Lin Dong stopped, the small marten’s voice once again rang out.

“Don’t worry, since I’ve made a promise, I will not go back on it.”

Lin Dong smiled as he replied before tilting his head down to look

at the deep area of the ‘Celestial Dan Pool’. Truthfully, he was also rather interested in the thing below that had managed to attract the interest of the mysterious small marten.

“There should still be some time before Xia Zhilan and the other two finish. I might as well take this chance to take a look...”

Lin Dong glanced at Xia Zhilan and the other two who were still concentrating on absorbing energy. After muttering to himself for a while, he no longer hesitated as his body swiftly swam like a fish towards the pitch-black darkness of the pool bottom while clad in Yuan Power.

Chapter 116: Demonic Jade Water-Python

The depths of the Celestial Dan Pool was not as easy to traverse as Lin Dong expected. Instead, it appeared especially twisted and torturous and there were numerous paths. Water flowed out from those paths and transformed into a torrent, constantly emitting crashing into something.

“Such a concentrated cold Qi.”

As he dove deeper, Lin Dong started to feel a bone-chilling cold Qi. Looks like Xia Wanjin was right, the cold Qi underneath this Celestial Dan Pool was extremely concentrated.

Strong Yuan Power gushed out of his Dantian before wrapping around Lin Dong's body as the bone-chilling cold Qi slightly weakened.

“The underneath of this Celestial Dan Pool is too complicated. If this continues, I will not last for long!” While he dived downwards, Lin Dong's voice transmitted into the Stone Talisman.

“Almost there, almost there. Take the path on the right.” The small marten's voice swiftly replied.

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong turned his head to look at that pitch-black path, having no choice but to grit his teeth and zip in like a fish.

Not long after Lin Dong entered the path, he felt the cold Qi quietly weaken a little and was surprised.

“Almost there...” The small marten’s voice was tinted with a bit of excitement as it rang out.

After hearing these words, Lin Dong’s speed slowed slightly as a vigilant look was revealed on his face and the Yuan Power within his body began to move. No one knew exactly what was under this Celestial Dan pool, thus it would not be wrong for him to be cautious.

Moments after Lin Dong speed slowed, a dim light suddenly shone in the dark path as the view before his eyes abruptly widened.

“Pop!”

A tiny noise sounded out and Lin Dong suddenly found that the surrounding pool water had strangely disappeared as his feet landed on the moist floor of a cave.

The cave was not big and the only exit was the one Lin Dong had swim in through. However, what was strange was that when the pool water reached the cave entrance, it seemed to be stopped by a formless object. This was why the cave was not full of pool water.

Lin Dong’s gaze was filled with amazement as he looked at the small moist cave. Clearly, he had never expected that there would

actually be such an unusual place at the bottom of the Celestial Dan Pool.

His gaze slightly sized up the cave before concentrating at the centre. There, a deep blue ball of light that was the size of a head was quietly floating. Within it, the moving shadow of a snake was faintly discernible.

While he gazed at the deep blue light ball, Lin Dong's expression turned serious. He could sense that there was an extremely powerful energy within it.

“What is that?” Lin Dong cautiously asked the small marten within the Stone Talisman.

“Demonic Jade Water Python. To be more precise, it should be the Demonic Spirit of a Demonic Jade Water Python.” An uncontrollable excitement could be heard in the small marten's voice.

“Demonic Spirit?”

Upon hearing these words, the skin of Lin Dong's head exploded. Though he did not know how powerful this Demonic Jade Water Python was, he knew that any Demonic Beast that was able to condense a Demonic Spirit would be an exceedingly powerful existence. At least, with his current strength, he would likely be killed in a flash.

“Don’t be afraid. This Demonic Spirit is injured and it’s intelligence is not high. Very easy to deal with.” As if it had sensed Lin Dong’s intention to retreat, the small marten quickly said.

“Then how strong is it now?” Lin Dong did not believe the small marten’s words and asked in reply.

“Uh...” The small marten delayed for a while before spitting it out: “It should be equivalent to Perfect Yuan Dan Stage of you humans.”

“God damn you!”

At these words, Lin Dong could not help but curse out loud. If this injured Demonic Jade Water Python was already comparable to a Perfect Yuan Dan practitioner, wouldn’t it’s complete form be equivalent to a Creation Three Stages practitioner? How can this be easily dealt with?

“Leave!”

When he recalled that the thing within the ball of light was actually able to rival Xia Wanjin and the rest in strength, Lin Dong started to become somewhat worried. He did not need to think about it and wanted to escape quickly. He did not believe that he currently had the strength to contend against a Perfect Yuan Dan Stage practitioner.

“Don’t, don’t, can you see what that is behind the ball of light?”

When it saw that Lin Dong wanted to escape straightaway, the small marten also became anxious. It currently urgently needed to swallow other Demonic Spirits to recover some strength.

After hearing its words, Lin Dong shot a glance towards the back of the light ball, only to see three black and white pearls floating in the air. Though they were quite a distance away, Lin Dong could still sense the pure Yin Yang Energy they emitted.

This level of purity was incomparable even to the energy within the Celestial Dan Pool!

“What is that?” Somewhat interested in this type of energy, Lin Dong inquired.

“That is the Yin Yang Pearl, the true treasure of the Celestial Dan Pool. It is a strange object that takes many years for the entire pool to condense and form. The Yin and Yang Energies that you absorbed outside are not even a tenth of one Yin Yang Pearl, plus, its purity is also incomparable. If you are able to obtain these Yin Yang Pearls, this grandfather marten guarantees that in six months, no, three months, you will successfully advance to Yuan Dan Stage!” The small marten’s voice hurriedly sounded out.

“Oh?”

Upon hearing this explanation, Lin Dong’s heart skipped a beat. He longingly stared at the three black and white pearls, but moments later, he once again slowly shook his head. Although the Yin Yang Pearls were valuable, his life was even more so. If he

awakened the Demonic Spirit of the Demonic Jade Water Python, this place would likely end up as his grave.

“I can’t beat that Demonic Spirit! I think it’s better to forget about it.” Lin Dong helplessly said.

“You can’t, but I can!” The small marten chuckled.

“Didn’t you say you had no power?” After hearing these words, Lin Dong suspiciously asked.

“I do not have much power now, thus I need to borrow the Yuan Power in your body.” The small marten replied.

“I am only at Heavenly Yuan Late Stage. Even if I lend all my Yuan Power to you, it would not be enough rival that guy!” Lin Dong furrowed his eyebrows, feeling that this tactic was not reasonable. He did not want to chance his fate on the small marten.

“Heh, you look down too much on the methods of the Celestial Demon Marten tribe. Granted that my current strength is not even one out of a ten thousand of my peak, yet what difficulty would there be in dealing with a Demonic Jade Water Python?” The small marten disdainfully replied.

Lin Dong slightly hesitated. He had never heard of what the Celestial Demon Marten was, yet this small marten did indeed seem to be somewhat different. A normal Demonic Beast did not

have its level of intelligence.

“Why is a brat like you so slow-going and sissy. To do big things, one must take risks. If you go up and tell those guys about the three Yin Yang Pearls here, this grandfather marten can bet with you that the mustache man will definitely rush here immediately, killing whoever obstructs him!” Seeing that Lin Dong had still yet to make a decision, the small marten also became anxious, feeling a little resentful that things did not meet his expectations as it cursed.

Lin Dong rolled his eyes in response. Though he knew that this small marten had exaggerated, yet, from the pure energy that emitted from within the Yin Yang Pearl, it looked like this thing was definitely no ordinary item.

“Alright, let us try! What do I do?”

After once again considering for a while, Lin Dong finally resolutely gritted his teeth. The small marten was right, there are risks no matter what one does. He would just have to chance it for those three Yin Yang Pearls!

“Pour Yuan Power into the Stone Talisman and leave the rest to me!”

Lin Dong pursed his lips, since he had already made up his mind, he no longer hesitated. With a nudge, Yuan Power gushed out from his Dantian before pouring into the Stone Talisman within the flesh of his palm.

“Buzz!”

As the huge amount of Yuan Power poured in, the Stone Talisman immediately emitted a tiny humming noise. A ray flashed out as a slightly illusionary and small shadow appeared on Lin Dong’s palm. This was the small marten.

After absorbing a huge amount of Yuan Power from Lin Dong, the pure black color of the small marten seemed to contain a trace of purple. While Lin Dong observed the small marten at such a close proximity, he found that this small animal was indeed no rat. On its forehead were a line of faint patterns which looked like a type of mysterious Symbols.

“Is it done?” After pouring almost all of the Yuan Power in his Dantian into the small marten’s body in one go, Lin Dong’s complexion was somewhat pale as he asked.

“Yes.”

The small marten nodded its head. Traces of purple and gold light flashed across its tiny jet-black eyes as an extremely diluted and powerful aura quietly spread out.

“Thump!”

At the appearance of this extremely diluted yet mighty pressure, Lin Dong’s knees involuntarily bent and almost kneeled down.

Immediately, he lifted his face, which was now overwhelmed with shock, as he gazed the small marten on his palm.

“Heh heh, useless guy. Can’t even bear this.” Upon seeing this, the small marten grinned as it mocked before its black body suddenly flashed as it directly appeared in front of the light ball.

As it gazed at the deep blue ball of light, a serious look flitted across the small marten’s eyes. Its claws moved at great speeds as black light swiftly flashed into its claws before quickly gathering and condensing together. In the blink of an eye, it transformed into a vortex that looked like a black hole.

“Heavenly Demon Mouth! Swallow!”

In the instance when the black hole formed, an exceptionally ancient and hoarse noise suddenly rang out from the small marten’s mouth. That voice was completely different from its usual one.

“Hhmmmm!”

As the small marten’s voice sounded out, the black hole vortex instantly started spinning frantically. As it spun, the black light gathered and seemed to transform into a huge mouth as a suction force exploded out and slowly pulled the light ball in.

Upon seeing that the small marten had made its move, Lin Dong’s expression also turned serious. He stealthily backed away

and stopped just before the cave entrance. At this spot, he could immediately escape once anything went wrong.

Under the strong swallowing force, the light ball was gradually pulled towards the black hole. However, using the perceptive abilities of his Mental Energy, Lin Dong could sense that a strong power within the light ball was currently swiftly awakening.

“Oh no...”

After sensing this, Lin Dong’s limbs immediately turned ice-cold.

“Hiss!”

At the same time, a sharp hissing noise abruptly rang out in the cave as the snake shadow within the ball of light quickly expanded!

The Demonic Jade Water Python Demonic Spirit that had went dormant, was finally roused from its sleep!

Chapter 117: Battle Between Two Beast

“Bang!”

The deep blue ball of light expanded violently. As it swelled, the snake shadow within it grew bigger and bigger. The Demonic Jade Water Python seemed to have sensed that someone was about to do harm to it, as it wriggled frantically about. Immediately, rays of deep blue light continuously shot out from the ball of light, trying to resist the suction force of the black hole.

“Boom!”

As both forces clashed, the resulting energy that rippled outwards caused the entire cave to shake. Broken pieces of the ceiling constantly fell from the roof of the cave.

“Humph!”

Upon witnessing the Demonic Jade Water Python Demonic Spirit’s resistance, the small marten snorted as its claws danced faster and faster. Meanwhile the suction force increased rapidly, pulling the ball of light inch by inch towards the black hole.

“Hiss hiss!”

Faced with this increasingly strong swallowing force, the beams of light that exploded out from within the ball of light also became more and more terrifying. Lin Dong clearly saw a stray light beam

streak across the cave roof, leaving behind a pitch-black crevice, so deep that you could not see its bottom.

“Rumble!”

After witnessing this terrifying destructive force, Lin Dong involuntarily swallowed. If any stray light beam had reached his body, he would be gravely injured.

“The small marten seems to genuinely be able to contend against the Demonic Jade Water Python...” Though Lin Dong was overwhelmed with horror at the Demonic Jade Water Python’s strength, he did not immediately run away. This was because he had realised that no matter how much the Demonic Jade Water Python struggled, it was still unable to break away from the pull of that crazily spinning black hole.

Although the small marten’s current power was borrowed from Lin Dong’s Yuan Power, the manner in which it utilised this power seemed extremely tyrannical. Furthermore, witnessing that black-hole-like vortex was simply heart stopping, as it held a certain trapped aura. It was easy to imagine how strong that small marten would be after it recovered some strength.

At this juncture, Lin Dong was finally convinced that this mysterious small marten used to possess this kind of terrifying power.

“Hiss hiss!”

While these thoughts swirled in Lin Dong's mind, the deadlock in the cave became increasingly violent. Hissing sounds constantly emitted from within the deep blue ball of light as the snake shadow inside frantically twisted and turned.

“Bang!”

As the Demonic Jade Water Python's resistance became more violent, the deep blue ball of light actually burst apart, causing an extremely powerful energy wave to spread outwards. Even Lin Dong who was at the fringe of the cave, was jolted heavily into the cave walls as pain emitted from his chest.

“Hiss!”

The ball of light burst open and the Demonic Spirit hidden within immediately appeared. It was a huge deep blue python that was dozens of feet long. However, its body currently looked rather illusionary. This was the characteristic of the Demonic Spirit form.

“Pop!”

Quickly after the Demonic Jade Water Python Demonic Spirit appeared, it opened its huge mouth as a viscous blue column of water shot towards the small marten. An extremely strong corrosive smell arose from within the column of water.

“Swallow!”

In response to the Demonic Jade Water Python's attack, the small marten sneered. It clenched its claw as a suction force exploded out from the black hole and directly swallowed the entire blue column of water.

“Stubborn bastard, grandfather marten wants to consume your Demonic Spirit. You actually dare to resist! Practically courting death!”

The Demonic Jade Water Python struggled with all its might, clearly causing the small marten to grow somewhat impatient. Immediately, its claws waved and a rich black Qi gushed out from within its body before condensing into a huge monster at the small marten's back.

As the black mist curled about the marten, Lin Dong could only see some indistinct parts. Yet, he still managed to find out that this monster actually had the original small marten's appearance, but enlarged countless times.

“Is this the small marten's true form?” As he gazed at the colossus that seemed to emit a terrible and ancient aura, Lin Dong could not help but mumble in his heart.

“Roar!”

Just as the huge monster took shape, it let out a low roar at the Demonic Jade Water Python. The roar was filled with an extremely frightening might and caused the Demonic Jade Water Python's body to tremble as fear colored its snake-like eyes.

“You better get in!”

The huge monster which had been formed by the black mist suddenly extended its palm, furiously smashing the Demonic Jade Water Python Demonic Spirit's body. After suffering this heavy blow, the Demonic Spirit let out a mournful cry before transforming into a ray of blue light that was swiftly swallowed into the crazily spinning black hole vortex.

“Pop!”

At the moment when the Demonic Jade Water Python was swallowed into the black hole, the figure at the small marten's back also fell apart as the black hole before it also started to disperse rapidly.

“Success?”

Upon seeing such a quick end to this battle, Lin Dong was stunned. He gazed at the small marten's body which had become so illusionary that it was almost transparent. From that appearance, it was clear that the latter was thoroughly spent. Though the small marten was not of ordinary origin, it had only borrowed some of the Yuan Power from Lin Dong. This Yuan Power was not enough for it to use its secret techniques too many times.

After gulping down that Demonic Jade Water Python's Demonic Spirit, the small marten's body transformed into a beam of light which flew back into the Stone Talisman within Lin Dong's palm.

“Brat, this time I definitely owe you one. However, I will perhaps have to rest for a period of time first...”

When the small marten entered the Stone Talisman, an exceptionally weak voice sounded out in Lin Dong’s head before quickly fading away. Looks like swallowing that Demonic Jade Water Python this time had caused the already weakened state of the small marten to deteriorate.

Lin Dong blankly stared at the messy cave which had suddenly become empty. Moments later, he heavily sighed in relief. Thankfully, he had won this gamble, or else, he would probably be chased and killed by a Demonic Spirit that had the strength of a perfect Yuan Dan Stage practitioner.

“Crash!”

Just as Lin Dong was relieved of the worry in his heart, the crashing sounds of water was suddenly heard from behind. The water which had been stuck at the cave entrance was now pouring into the cave.

Upon seeing this scene, Lin Dong hastily dashed forward and grabbed the three Yin Yang Pearls that were still suspended in mid-air.

As the Yin Yang Pearls made contact with his hand, a cold and warm sensation practically gushed into Lin Dong’s body at the same time. That sensation was so relaxing that it caused Lin Dong

to straightaway tremble. Merely slightly touching had brought about this feeling, looks like what the small marten had said before was true.

This Yin Yang Pearl was a truly a treasure!

Unable to contain the happiness in his heart, Lin Dong swiftly stuffed the Yin Yang Pearls into his Qiankun Bag. Then, summoning the little bit of Yuan Power left in his Dantian, he hastily swum out through the path he had entered.

...

Outside the Celestial Dan Pool, Xia Zhilan and the other two had already concluded their absorbing and left the pool. Their puzzled gazes were fixed on the Celestial Dan Pool, as they struggled to comprehend why Lin Dong had yet to resurface.

“Could something have happened?” Xuan Su’s black brows knitted together as she asked.

“Nothing should have went wrong. Yue Shan and I had scanned this Celestial Dan Pool at the start. Although the terrain below is complicated, there were no dangers.” Xia Wanjin shook his head. He was also somewhat puzzled over why Lin Dong had yet to appear.

“How about this, let us wait for a while longer. If he still does not appear, I will personally go down to investigate.”

Xia Wanjin muttered to himself for a while before saying. No matter what, he was a righteous man. Disregarding Lin Dong's potential, just based on the fact that he had helped the Thousand Gold Association achieve the final victory, Xia Wanjin felt that he should ensure Lin Dong's safety.

“Okay.” After hearing these words, Xuan Su also lightly nodded. If they were able to rope in an individual with such immense potential, their Thousand Gold Association would definitely enjoy huge benefits in the future.

“Plop!”

Not long after Xia Wanjin had spoken, a noise sounded out from the calm surface of the pond. Immediately, a figure broke through the surface and landed at the side of the pool.

“He's out!”

As they gazed at the youngster who had finally appeared, Xia Zhilan and the rest released a sigh of relief.

“Hehe, sorry. I visited the bottom of the pool due to curiosity and was delayed for a time.” Upon seeing the crowd, Lin Dong clasped his hands together and apologized with a smile on his face.

“I thought that you had drowned.” Xia Zhilan cast a glance at Lin Dong as she snorted. She was in a slightly bad mood after recalling

Lin Dong's whale-like absorption of the energy from before.

Lin Dong chuckled as he could not be bothered to argue with her. He turned back to glance at the Celestial Dan Pool, only to find that the pool water had now become clear. The fragrance from before had also become so mild that it could hardly be sensed. The peculiar scenery of a half boiling and half ice-cold pool no longer existed. Looks like the energy within had been practically exhausted by the four of them. In the future, this Celestial Dan Pool would be merely be an ordinary pool.

“Hehe, looks like this little brother Lin Dong reaped quite a harvest.” Xia Wanjin's gaze swept across Lin Dong's body, amazed that the Yuan Power undulation from the latter's body was actually much richer than before.

“Hehe, it's just a small break through.”

After hearing these words, Lin Dong's heart skipped a beat. He had thought that Xia Wanjin had found out about the bounty he had obtained at the bottom of the pool. However, after taking a closer look, the latter did not seem to imply such a meaning. Stealthily sighing in relief, Lin Dong casually replied. As the small marten had said, These Yin Yang Pearls held great allure and he was unsure of what Xia Wanjin would have done if he found out about them.

As Lin Dong spoke, his gaze also examined Xia Zhilan and the other two. Currently, the Yuan Power undulations that emitted from their bodies were exceptionally strong. The three of them were already practitioners at the Heavenly Yuan Late Stage.

Therefore, after absorbing energy from the Celestial Dan Pool, they should be able to successfully advance to the Yuan Dan Stage soon.

Xia Wanjin lightly nodded his head. In his heart, he had started to grown fond of Lin Dong. To be able to make such progress in Yuan Power and especially in Mental Energy at such a young age, was definitely testament to the fact Lin Dong's talent was indeed exceptional.

“Since this matter is over, let us return to Yan City.” To one side, Xuan Su smiled and said.

In response to her words, Lin Dong smiled back and nodded. Since the Celestial Dan Pool's energy had been depleted, there was no point in lingering here. All in all, he could be considered as the the one with the largest haul after this Celestial Dan Pool journey. This was not a wasted trip indeed.

Chapter 118: Sinecure and Expenses

The huge group rushed back to Yan City after a rewarding trip. Due to the fact that they had quite a bountiful harvest, the atmosphere surrounding them was rather jovial. While they were journeying back, Xia Wanjin inquired about Lin Dong's origins, with a hidden intention of roping him in.

Towards Xia Wanjin's interest in him, Lin Dong slightly thought about it and did not straightaway reject it. Since he had aided the Thousand Gold Association in defeating the Blood Wolf Gang, given the latter's style and mannerisms, it was likely that they would hold a grudge against him. Hence, at this juncture, fostering a close relations to one of the other top factions in Yan City, the Thousand Gold Association, was undoubtedly a wise decision.

Thus, he did not hide his origins. After all, with the Thousand Gold Association's power, they would find out after a little investigation.

“The Lin Family of Qingyang Town?”

After hearing that Lin Dong was from the Lin Family of Qingyang Town, Xia Wanjin did not react much while Xuan Su was a little surprised. Soon after, she covered her mouth and let out a laugh: “The Yang Yuan Stones that were recently sold by the Lin Family were mostly collected by our Thousand Gold Association. I never expected that our young friend Lin Dong was actually from the Lin Family. When we return, I will instruct our people to take note when doing business with the Lin Family in the future.”

“Hehe, then I’ll have to thank Manager Su.” Lin Dong chuckled as he politely clasped his hands together towards her.

“The Lin Family...I’ve recently heard that the Blood Cloth Sect from Yan City has a grudge with you? In addition, in about a month, the leader of the Blood Cloth Sect, Wei Tong, has agreed on a death match with your Lin Family at Yan City’s duel arena?” As if he had suddenly recalled something, Xia Wanjin asked.

Upon hearing this, Xuan Su, Xia Zhilan and the rest were also shocked as their gazes turned towards Lin Dong. Though the Blood Cloth Sect could not compare to their Thousand Gold Association in Yan City, the former were still a reasonably strong faction and Wei Tong was an advanced Yuan Dan Stage expert. Could the Lin Family contend against this level of strength?

“Yes. There is indeed some grievances between us.” In response to their astonishment, Lin Dong merely smiled as he calmly continued: “Furthermore, the one who will have a death match with Wei Tong is me.”

“Oh?”

After hearing this declaration, even Xia Wanjin’s eyebrow slightly raised. To one side, Xia Zhilan could not help but remark: “Does a brat like you not want to live anymore? Wei Tong is an advanced Yuan Dan Stage expert, he is nothing compared to the half-baked Jiang Li from today!”

“Yes, Zhilan is correct. A duel to the death in the duel arena is no

trifling matter. If need be, I can step in to mediate.” Xuan Su also nodded as she offered.

“I’m afraid that will be difficult. The Blood Cloth Sect is led by the Blood Wolf Gang. Now that Lin Dong has caused them to lose the Celestial Dan Pool, even if our Thousand Gold Association intervenes, it would be very tricky to make the Blood Cloth Sect give up.” Xia Wanjin muttered.

“Hehe, this was originally a matter that others should not interfere with. Still, many thanks to both of you.” Lin Dong slightly smiled as he replied.

“How did you offend the Blood Cloth Sect?” Xia Zhilan could not help but inquire.

“I guess it’s because I killed their deputy head, Gu Ying.” Lin Dong casually said.

When these words were spoken, the surroundings turned quiet. When Lin Dong turned his head, he found that Xia Zhilan and the rest were staring at him in amazement.

“Gu Ying should have been a Second Seal Symbol Master right?” Xuan Su was likewise shocked. Soon after, she regained her wits and somewhat helplessly asked: “Young one, to think that you had actually killed him. No wonder it is not possible to interfere.”

“What a disgusting fellow.” Xia Zhilan mumbled in a low voice. It

could be said that a Second Seal Symbol Master was equivalent to an initial Yuan Dan Stage practitioner. Yet such a powerful figure was actually killed by Lin Dong. No wonder Lin Dong did not panic at all when he faced Jiang Li earlier. After all, he was already assured of his victory.

Lin Dong spread out his hands. He knew that he had no choice in that matter. After all, if he did not kill Gu Ying, it would result in even greater troubles in the future. However, now that the deed was done, there was nothing to be regretful about. As for Wei Tong, it was too early to discuss on who would win or lose in the death duel one month later.

“Hehe, our young friend Lin Dong is so bold. Gu Ying is a terrible person, it’s good news that he’s dead.” Xia Wanjin chuckled. Soon after, he changed the topic and asked: “I want to invite our young friend, Lin Dong, to take on a sinecure position as an officer of the Thousand Gold Association. Would you be willing?”

Upon hearing Xia Wanjin’s words, Lin Dong was slightly stunned. As he gazed at the former’s smiling expression, it suddenly all clicked together in his head. Xia Wanjin wanted to secretly help their Lin Family by allowing them to establish ties with the Thousand Gold Association. Then in future, the Lin Family would be able to receive some help in Yan City and not worry about retaliation from the Blood Cloth Sect or the Blood Wolf Gang.

“Then I shall thank President Xia for his good will.”

Lin Dong thought about it momentarily, before he clasped his

hands together. For the current Lin Family, the Thousand Gold Association was like a huge tree. If it was him alone, he would be fine alone. However, right now, he had to consider the needs of the entire Lin Family too. Thus, he decided to accept this kind of good will.

After witnessing that Lin Dong had accepted, Xia Wanjin let out a hearty laugh. Though the former's current strength was perhaps unable to move him, Lin Dong's potential had become very important to Xia Wanjin. Since he had started out as a merchant, he knew extremely well about the benefits of a long term investment. If he let go of this chance, perhaps their Thousand Gold Association would no longer have the qualifications to express any good will to Lin Dong in the future when he has finally displayed his potential...

Upon witnessing this scene, Xuan Su also let out a little laugh. She had always thought rather highly of Lin Dong. Therefore, she was glad to see that the Thousand Gold Association was able to establish ties with him

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After returning to Yan City, Lin Dong bid farewell to Xia Wanjin and the rest, before directly returning to the inn that he stayed it, without making any other pit stops.

Right after he reached his room, Lin Dong's body stumbled. Although he had reaped a bountiful harvest today, it was no walk in the park. Furthermore, towards the end when he was at the bottom of the pool, he had practically given all his Yuan Power to

the small marten. What's more, he had tried to maintain his spirits on the journey back. Now that he could finally relax, it was natural that a feeble sensation started to spread out all over his body.

As he was in this feeble state, Lin Dong did not immediately start studying the Yin Yang Pearl he had just obtained. Instead, he chose to endure the exhaustion and weakness, as he sat down on his bed and slowly entering into a cultivation state.

It was an entire half a day's time, before Lin Dong once again opened his eyes, only to find that it was already late at night.

After cultivating for half a day, his Dantian which was almost out of Yuan Power had mostly recovered. That feeble sensation had also gradually faded away.

Sensing that he had mostly recovered, Lin Dong retrieved the three 'Yin Yang Pearls' he had obtained today at the bottom of the Celestial Dan Pool from his Qiankun Bag.

These three round, black and white pearls floated before Lin Dong. Strong and pure energy undulated and continuously spread out from within, before rippling throughout the room.

Lin Dong had a rather heated gaze as he stared at the three 'Yin Yang Pearls'. He could sense that even the energy within one of the 'Yin Yang Pearls' was more than the combined energy that the four of them had absorbed from the Celestial Dan Pool today.

“This is the true treasure of the Celestial Dan Pool!”

Lin Dong let out a chuckle, fortunately the layout of the bottom of the Celestial Dan Pool was extremely complicated. If not, this kind of treasure would never have been picked up by him. Given Xia Wanjin’s and Yue Shan’s characters, they would definitely have long ago inspected the Celestial Dan Pool. If it were not for the fact that there were countless paths at the bottom of the pool, perhaps the treasure would have long been discovered by the both of them.

Ordinary people only knew that the treasure of the Celestial Dan Pool was the energy within the pool water, yet they would never have expected that the Celestial Dan Pool would also be able to produce a mysterious item like the ‘Yin Yang Pearl’.

After being happy for a while, Lin Dong cautiously kept two of the Yin Yang Pearls, while leaving one behind and moving it to the center of his palm before once again closing his eyes. While he activated Qingyuan Art, he also utilised Mental Energy, condensing it into a ‘Qi Transformation Vortex’ above his Dantian.

“Wu!”

As Lin Dong started to absorb, the Yin Yang Pearl began to tremble. Next, a shockingly pure energy that looked like a water column of alternating black and white flew out from the Yin Yang Pearl before finally being absorbed by the suction force emitting from Lin Dong’s body!

Under Lin Dong's frantic absorption, a moist fog of energy seemed to curl around his body.

This kind of absorption was practically several times better than in the Celestial Dan Pool from before.

However, this absorption lasted for only half an hour, before Lin Dong sensed that the Yuan Power Qi ball within his Dantian was already crammed full. Immediately, he stopped his greedy absorption and started operating the Qingyuan Art to condense the Yuan Power Qi ball.

This rate of condensing was not satisfying to Lin Dong, however, he had no alternatives. Qingyuan Art was only a third rate Secret Art and this was already its limit. To increase the speed of absorption and condensing Yuan Power, one had to look at the root of the problem, which was to replace it with a higher tier Secret Art!

Of course, he could only pine for it as he was currently unable to obtain a higher tier Secret Art. Thus, Lin Dong could only bear with it for the moment.

...

Life was much more peaceful for Lin Dong over the next few days as he spent most of his time immersed in cultivation. With these Yin Yang Pearls, Lin Dong's Yuan Power cultivation progressed very rapidly. He could sense that he was now edging closer to the boundary separating him from the Yuan Dan Stage. All he needed

to do, was to wait for the day when he naturally broke through.

Given his current progress, that day should not be too far off.

While he cultivated his Yuan Power, Lin Dong did not neglect his Mental Energy. After using up a large amount of funds to buy and refine grade five elixirs into elixir pills, his Mental Energy cultivation also made rapid progress. The crack on the Destiny Soul Symbol in his Niwan Palace also became increasingly distinct and seemed to be about to split into two at moment...

However, this trend only lasted till the tenth day before suddenly stopping. This was because Lin Dong awkwardly realised that merely half a month after he arrived at Yan City, he had actually completely spent the one thousand Yang Yuan Pills he had brought. Hence, he no longer possessed the funds to buy any grade five elixirs.

This kind of expenditure would probably cause Lin Zhentian and the rest to be dumbstruck if they found out about it. The entire Lin Family would be unable to afford the cultivation of just him alone.

“I guess it’s time to earn some money...”

As he gazed at his empty Qiankun Bag, Lin Dong could not help but laugh bitterly, as he shook his head.

Chapter 119: Earning Money

With regards to earning money, Lin Dong did not have much business acumen like Xuan Su. However, he did not plan on constructing a business empire. All that he wanted, was enough elixirs to aid his cultivation.

After he thought about it, he realized that he only had two means to earn money. One was to refine Yang Yuan Stones using the refining power of the Stone Talisman. Since he could basically refine one Yang Yuan pill from three Yang Yuan Stones, this was triple the efficiency of an ordinary practitioner. However, he did not have enough Yang Yuan Stones at hand and most factions with considerable power, would not so easily sell such an item. As for collecting them, it would be way too troublesome.

Thus Lin Dong could only turn to the other simpler method. That was to directly sell the elixir pills he refined with the Stone Talisman.

Lin Dong was able to refine five elixir pills from one grade five elixir. Moreover, not only were the elixir pills that were obtained after this kind of refining mild and extremely easy to absorb, it was also several times more effective than consuming the elixir the normal way.

Based on Lin Dong's conjecture, if others consumed a grade five elixir, the amount of medicine power they could absorb would not even be one fifth of the entire amount contained within that particular elixir. Most of the medicine power would settle in the body or disperse. While a single elixir pill was already comparable

to this kind of effectiveness.

In other words, to an ordinary person, it would be much more worthwhile to directly purchase and consume an elixir pill instead of buying a grade five elixir. And this was also the fastest method Lin Dong could think of to earn money...

...

Of course, if he wanted to sell elixir pills, he would naturally have to go to the Thousand Gold Auction House. Only there, could he receive the best rate.

Therefore, Lin Dong straightened up himself before he exited the inn and headed directly to the Thousand Gold Association.

The current Lin Dong was also considered as a sinecure of the Thousand Gold Association, which meant that he held some status there. Thus, when he was seen, a servant girl quickly appeared and brought him before Xuan Su, who was currently in the middle of dealing with some matters.

“Hehe, little brother Lin Dong, it’s been so long since you’ve come to find this elder sister. I almost thought that you had already forgotten about me.” Xuan Su, who was flipping through some documents, lifted her lovely face and smiled sweetly at Lin Dong when she heard the sounds of his footsteps. Her smile was truly a mesmerizing sight.

Lin Dong replied with a dry laugh. He was at a little at loss of how to deal with the teasing of this beautiful woman who exuded a mature and graceful charm. He knew that Xuan Su was not that much older than Xia Zhilan and she only called the former aunt due to family seniority.

“Speak then, what did you come to this elder sister for?” Xuan Su put down the documents in her hands and smiled gently.

“I’m thinking of auctioning off some items at the Thousand Gold Association.” Lin Dong did not beat about the bush. After muttering to himself for a moment, he retrieved two jade bottles from his Qiankun Bag. In each jade bottle, there were ten elixir pills refined from grade five elixirs.

“Oh?”

Xuan Su’s gently lifted her pretty umber-black eyebrows as she extended a slender lily-white hand to retrieve an elixir pill from the jade bottle. She fiddled with it for a moment before softly saying: “This is an elixir pill refined from an elixir right?”

“Yes.” Lin Dong chuckled as he nodded his head.

Xuan Su pondered for a while before she called a white-haired elderly man over and passed the elixir pill to him. This elderly man was evidently very experienced in judging elixir pills. After some examination, he was somewhat astonished as he asked: “This should be an elixir pill with Mental Energy recovery properties. It has a gentle nature and it’s effect is at least that of a grade five

elixir.”

“Oh? Looks like little brother Lin Dong possessed some treasures.” Upon hearing these words, Xuan Su was also a little amazed. To think that a single elixir pill could actually match up to a grade five elixir.

“This old man suggests to set the auction price of this elixir pill at 300 Yang Yuan Stones. Due to the fact that this elixir pill has Mental Energy recovery properties, most of the buyers would be Symbol Masters. These customers are considered very wealthy and if they fight over it, the price will perhaps rise even higher. What does Manager Su think?” The white-hair elderly man said.

“Okay.” Xuan Su slightly inclined her head, she clearly felt that this price was appropriate.

Likewise, Lin Dong was also very satisfied with this price. One pill for 300 Yang Yuan Stones, then twenty pills would be equivalent to 6 000 Yang Yuan Stones. After conversion, that would be 600 Yang Yuan pills, which was no small sum.

“Manager Su, if you successfully auction off these elixir pills, you can pay me in Yang Yuan Stones.” Lin Dong smiled and said. If he refined Yang Yuan Stones himself, he could even double or triple his profits. Thus it was not worthwhile for him to directly ask for Yang Yuan pills.

“You need a middle level Qiankun Bag to store so many Yang Yuan Stones.” Xuan Su stared at Lin Dong as she softly chuckled:

“Little brother Lin Dong, a middle level Qiankun Bag is normally priced at about 2 000 Yang Yuan Stones. Since you’re a sinecure of our Thousand Gold Association, how about I charge you 1 000?”

After hearing this, Lin Dong was stunned before he could not help but feel an ache in his heart. A low level Qiankun Bag only costs about a hundred Yang Yuan Stones, yet a middle level one actually costs ten times as much?

“Then we’ll do as Manager Su says.” No matter how much it hurt his heart, Lin Dong knew that these things were essential. Though a low level Qiankun Bag was cheap, the tiny bit of space it had was really inadequate.

“Pfff.”

When she saw that pained expression on Lin Dong’s face, Xuan Su could not help but cover her mouth to stifle her laughter: “Little brother Lin Dong, this elder sister is only teasing you. Take this middle level Qiankun Bag as a gift from our Thousand Gold Association, you are not allowed to reject, else I won’t help you auction these elixir pills.”

As he gazed at the attractively graceful Xuan Su, who was now knitting her eyebrows and held back her laughter, Lin Dong could only force a smile as he nodded his head while secretly sighing in his heart. As expected of the Thousand Gold Association, they were probably the only ones who were able to give away an item worth several thousand Yang Yuan Stones with a wave of a hand.

“Manager Su...”

“You’re so young, where did all these formalities come from? If you don’t think I am old, call me big sister Su instead.” Upon hearing Lin Dong call her Manager Su, Xuan Su could not help but feel a little unhappy as she remarked.

“Alright then...big sister Su.” Since he was born, Lin Dong had never seen such a formidable woman. Thus, he could only helplessly nod his head before he said: “I need a slightly higher tier Secret Art. Hence, may I ask big sister Su to help me watch out for one.”

“High level Secret Art?”

After hearing this request, Xuan Su’s umber-black brow slightly furrowed. A third-rate Secret Art was very easy to obtain, yet a second-rate one was slightly more difficult and as for a first-rate one, it was even rarer. Even their Thousand Gold Association would rarely come across one.

“Sure, I will pass down the instructions and make sure someone keeps a look out. If anyone wants to auction one, I will secretly intercept and allow you to discuss with the seller in private.”

“Many thanks big sister Su.”

Lin Dong let out a sigh of relief as he cupped his fists and thanked her. Although he had earned quite a sum today from the elixir

pills, he knew that there were many rich people in Yan City. If someone else took fancy on it, he would have a tough time obtaining it.

“Leave the elixir pills here first, I will begin to auction them off over these few days. As for the Secret Art, I will contact you when there is news.”

Lin Dong smiled and nodded his head. Though they had finished their discussions, based on his understanding of her temperament, Lin Dong did not dare to leave immediately. Thus, he accompanied Xuan Su and chatted with her for a while before taking his leave.

...

Over the next few days, without the elixir pills to supplement him, his cultivation pace slowed down slightly. Yet, this was ideal as one needed both tension and relaxation to make up a good cultivation regiment. If one blindly immerses oneself in constant tough training, one's efficiency will drop.

As for the auctioning of the elixir pills, one could not help but say that the Thousand Gold Association was indeed powerful and capable. In merely three days, they successively auctioned off all twenty elixir pills. The intelligent Xuan Su's business methods were pretty good. She did not auction off all the elixir pills at one go, but instead split them up into batches. These kind of elixir pills were extremely beneficial to Symbol Masters, yet even for important items like this, it would be hard to increase their price if there were too many. After all, the rarer something was, the greater its value.

Thus, during these batch by batch auctions, the wealthy Symbol Masters fought over the twenty elixir pills till their prices reached 8 000 Yang Yuan Stones in total, an amount that far exceeded Lin Dong's expectations.

After receiving this quantity of Yang Yuan Stones, Lin Dong once again used up two whole days to refine them all into Yang Yuan pills.

Therefore, Lin Dong was now in possession of 2 600 Yang Yuan pills. His originally dried up funds had practically exploded in an instant...

With this bountiful harvest, Lin Dong monetary foundations were once again solid. He went out to purchase a batch of rather good quality grade five elixirs before immersing himself in intensive training again.

On the third day after he continued to immerse himself in intense training, Xuan Su suddenly sent someone from the Thousand Gold Association to inform him that the item he needed, had finally made an appearance.

After hearing this news, Lin Dong practically jumped for joy on the spot. While he enjoyed the benefits of the Yin Yang Pearl over this period of time, Lin Dong increasingly found that 'Qingyuan Art' was lacking.

This kind of feeling was akin to a rather good car being powered

by a subpar engine, resulting in the car's true horsepower to be thoroughly unable to be displayed.

As such, this matter was a constant pain in Lin Dong's side, therefore, after hearing that there was news of a high level Secret Art, he did not hesitate in the slightest as he straightaway left the inn and made a beeline for the Thousand Gold Association.

If that Secret Art was really appropriate, he would obtain it no matter the price!

He had suffered enough from that old bull dragging a cart like efficiency of 'Qingyuan Art'!

Chapter 120: Tri Sun Art

Lin Dong rushed to the Thousand Gold Auction House as if he was on fire and when he finally arrived, there was already a servant girl waiting for him. Once she saw him, she respectfully led him to the guest room.

Currently, there were two figures in the guest room. One of which was Xuan Su, while the other was a slightly lean and unfamiliar middle aged man who had deep-set eyes.

“This is the one who wanted to auction the Secret Art, mister Yanzhong.” Upon seeing Lin Dong rush over, Xuan Su stood up and slightly smiled as she introduced the other man.

“Are you the one who wanted to purchase my Secret Art?” Yanzhong’s eyebrow furrowed when he glanced at Lin Dong. The former clearly thought that the other party was too young.

Lin Dong smiled as he nodded his head: “May I inquire as to what tier mister Yanzhong’s Secret Art is?”

“Don’t worry, this Secret Art of mine is no ordinary one.” After hearing these words, Yanzhong proudly declared. Soon after, he fished out a thin golden tome.

“Tri Sun Art.”

When the tome was being retrieved, Lin Dong caught a quick

glance of the three simple words on it from the corner of his eyes.

“The Tri Sun Art is a second-tier Secret Art. Not only is this Secret Art able to open fifteen channels, it can also cultivate three sun-like Yuan Qi balls in the Dantian. At a crucial moment, one can utilise them by igniting them. Even against an opponent who is one cultivation level stronger, the opponent would still be caught unprepared and suffer substantially.”

After listening to Yanzhong’s pride-filled voice, a passionate flame quietly grew in Lin Dong’s heart. Just from hearing about it, this Tri Sun Art seemed several times stronger than Qingyuan Art. Most importantly, this ‘Tri Sun Art’ seemed to possess a corresponding secret technique. Similar to Jiang Li’s Transformation Art, only that the latter was able to evaporate his blood to increase his strength over a short period, while the ‘Tri Sun Art’ allowed one to form three bomb-like objects in the Dantian. It would definitely be able to catch an enemy off guard.

“Opening fifteen channels is considered normal for a second-tier Secret Art. As for the secret method of attack you mentioned, I’m thinking that it would injure the user quite badly after activation right?” While a fire burned in Lin Dong’s heart, to one side, Xuan Su chuckled as she asked.

Xuan Su’s foresight was naturally incomparable to a greenhorn like Lin Dong. Thus she could find the fatal flaw Yanzhong had failed to mention in a glance.

After hearing her words, Lin Dong became a little more clear-headed. When Jiang Li activated his Blood Transformation Art, he

had ended up suffering serious repercussions. This ‘Tri Sun Art’ could not possibly be perfect right?

“Heh heh, perceptive indeed.” Yanzhong had evidently underestimated Xuan Su’s insightfulness as he let out an awkward laugh. He had no choice but to continue explaining: “There is no major backlash, it’s just that forming the ‘three sun balls’ requires a high level of control, or else, one would easily wound himself from the resulting explosion.”

It was in fact not easy at all. Ever since he had obtained the ‘Tri Sun Art’, Yanzhong had never ever succeeded in forming it before. In the process, he had hurt himself many times until he no longer dared to practise this ‘three sun balls’.

Lin Dong was amazed as he secretly praised Xuan Su in his heart and gave her a grateful look. However, the interest he had in this ‘Tri Sun Art’ intensified. Due to the fact that he cultivated Mental Energy, though Lin Dong did not consider himself extremely masterful at controlling energy, he was still confident of being on a whole level higher than those at the same cultivation level as himself. Just because Yanzhong was unable to succeed did not mean that Lin Dong would be unable to.

“Though there are some flaws, it is still considerable among second-tier Secret Arts.” Xuan Su slightly smiled as she continued: “May I inquire as to how much mister Yanzhong wishes to sell this Secret Art?”

“Manager Su’s eyes are too sharp, I shall not waste any more words, 50 000 Yang Yuan Stones.” Yanzhong muttered to himself

for a while before he extended out five of his fingers and declared in a low voice.

“50 000 Yang Yuan Stones.”

After hearing this figure, the corners of Lin Dong’s eyes involuntarily twitched violently. He had originally thought that although he could not be considered extremely wealthy, he at least had ample funds. He did not expect that he was currently unable to purchase even a single second-tier Secret Art...

“50 000 Yang Yuan Stones is rather expensive, however it is still reasonable.” Xuan Su softly replied. Through her discerning eyes, she predicted that if this ‘Tri Sun Art’ was auctioned, it would probably end up at a higher price.

Lin Dong bitterly laughed in his heart. Currently, he had at most 2000 Yan Yuan Pills on hand. This was only equivalent to 20 000 Yang Yuan Stones. He had indeed underestimated the cost of such a Secret Art.

“Mister Yanzhong, there are 5000 Yang Yuan Pills in here, do check the amount is correct.”

While Lin Dong was still feeling slightly awkward, to one side, Xuan Su sweetly smiled as if she had seen through his thoughts and retrieved a Qiankun bag from her sleeves before handing it over to Yanzhong. From the looks of it, she seemed to have prepared it earlier...

Yanzhong was somewhat delighted as he received the Qiankun bag, he inspected the contents for a long time before passing the tome in his hand to Xuan Su. Not wanting to linger any longer, he straightaway bid them farewell and left.

“Here, little brother Lin Dong, even though this ‘Tri Sun Art’ is rather difficult to practise, the ‘three sun balls’ is quite formidable. Yanzhong lacked the ability thus he was unable appreciate it, or else 50 000 Yang Yuan Stones would not be enough to purchase this ‘Tri Sun Art’.” After seeing that Yanzhong had left, Xuan Su turned around as she smiled and offered the ‘Tri Sun Art’ in her hand to Lin Dong.

“Big sister Su, thank you. I will make sure to return this sum to the Thousand Gold Association.” Lin Dong hesitated for a moment, though not dallying too much as he received the tome and earnestly replied. 50 000 Yang Yuan Stones was no small sum and he did not want to owe too many favors. Favors between people were sometimes the hardest to repay.

After seeing Lin Dong’s earnest appearance, Xuan Su could only helplessly nod her head as she replied in a slightly annoyed voice: “You little brat, your stubbornness is such a headache...”

As he gazed at the heart-tugging, pouting face of the beauty, Lin Dong let out a hollow laugh as he kept the ‘Tri Sun Art’ in his Qiankun bag. After sincerely chatting and keeping Xuan Su company for quite a long time, he gave her one final smile before standing up to leave.

...

When he returned to the inn, Lin Dong did not immediately start to study the 'Tri Sun Art', instead, he took out a batch of grade five elixirs he had bought the day before. These elixirs were not like those of the past which possessed Mental Energy recovery properties, instead they were extremely beneficial for Yuan Power cultivation.

All these elixirs were eventually refined by Lin Dong into elixir pills using the Stone Talisman. In total, he ended up with over sixty pills, if he auctioned off these pills, he would be able to repay his debt. After all, Lin Dong was not accustomed to owing others.

After using up most of the day to refine these elixirs, Lin Dong finally sighed in relief as he retrieved the 'Tri Sun Art' he had obtained today from his Qiankun bag and concentrated on studying it.

This lasted for about an hour before Lin Dong withdrew his attention from the tome as he involuntarily nodded his head. As expected of a second-tier Secret Art, compared to 'Qingyang Art', it was better in every way.

After gaining a reasonable comprehension of this 'Tri Sun Art', Lin Dong gently closed his eyes as his mind slowly submerged into the Stone Talisman within his palm.

Lin Dong once again appeared in the familiar Spiritual Domain, yet, this time, he did not straightaway head towards the Mind Millstones area. Instead, he waited at the place where the glowing

shadows were born. As anticipated, a newly born glowing shadow appeared in a sitting position.

Lin Dong quietly sat before that glowing shadow and focused his full attention on the light that flowed within the glowing shadow's body. The path that the light took was the one needed to open the channels of the 'Tri Sun Art'.

Under Lin Dong's unwavering gaze, the paths of fifteen channels successively made their appearance.

When the light completed the route of the fifteenth channel, Lin Dong did not relax his attention but instead, his eyes opened even wider. He looked forward to finding out: How many channels could this 'Tri Sun Art' unlock after being strengthened by the Stone Talisman?

The mysterious Stone Talisman did not disappoint Lin Dong. After slightly pausing, the light once again started to flow. An extremely remote channel pathway was slowly travelled by the light, as if it was trying to open up a mountain path.

And, this was not the end!

Quickly following, another path that did not belong to the fifteen original channel pathways once again appeared!

Path by path...

Under Lin Dong's excited gaze, in a short span of ten minutes, the light had once again cautiously opened seven channels!

These seven channels combined with the fifteen original channels of the 'Tri Sun Art' was in total a whopping twenty two channels!

This number had actually surpassed Qingyuan Art by more than three times!

If fifteen channels was considered normal among second-tier Secret Arts, these twenty two channels would be considered extremely good.

After witnessing the strengthening effect of the Stone Talisman, Lin Dong involuntarily let out a hearty laugh. These 50 000 Yang Yuan Stones were well spent indeed.

Moments later, Lin Dong's excitement slowly faded as he suppressed the joy in his heart. Once again, he concentrated his attention on the flowing light and carved the twenty two channel pathways into his brain.

After memorising these channel pathways, Lin Dong was finally satisfied as he withdrew from the Spiritual Domain. He sat down cross-legged as a Yin Yang Pearl was once again pressed between his palms while streams of Yuan Power gushed out of his Dantian. Under his control, they swiftly flowed towards the obscured channels.

Armed with his previous experience, Lin Dong proceeded with ease this time. When all these channels were opened, he would truly be able to taste the various benefits of a second-tier Secret Art...

Chapter 121: Intensive Training

After opening the channels of 'Tri Sun Art', it could only be described with the words unimpeded and free from obstruction. In a single night, Lin Dong actually managed to open eight out of twenty two channels!

This speed was simply terrifying. Before, while Lin Dong was cultivating 'Qingyuan Art', even he had taken months before completely opening seven channels. Yet, now, he merely used a single night to open eight channels!

Of course, the greatest contributor of such a dreadful effectiveness was naturally the Yin Yang Pearl.

With the aid of the vigorous and river-like energy of the Yin Yang Pearl, the Yuan Power inside Lin Dong's Dantian was maintained at an abundant state practically all the time. If it was not so taxing on his mind to open the channels, Lin Dong would have likely completely opened all twenty two channels in one go!

And it was due to this state of abundant Yuan Power that Lin Dong was able to open eight channels in a single day.

As the eight channels were opened, Lin Dong gradually felt some of the benefits that came with it. Whether it was in absorbing or condensing Yuan Power, the speed of the 'Tri Sun Art' far outclassed Qingyuan Art. Even though there were only eight channels opened now, Tri Sun Art's effectiveness was already able to match up to Qingyuan Art at its peak.

With regards to this result, Lin Dong was extremely satisfied. The 50 000 Yang Yuan Stones were definitely well spent!

The next day, Lin Dong delivered the sixty or so elixir pills to Xuan Su. Thanks to the fact that there were quite a few elixir pills this time that were of the Yuan Power recovery type, the resulting haul was rather good. In a mere three days, every single pill was auctioned off and another 20 000 plus Yang Yuan Stones were deposited into Lin Dong's pocket.

These 20 000 plus Yang Yuan Stones were again refined by Lin Dong for two days before they had all transformed into 6000 plus Yang Yuan pills, out of which 5000 pills were handed over to Xuan Su, allowing Lin Dong to wipe clean his debt.

After clearing his debt, Lin Dong finally let out a heavy sigh of relief. The so-called 'free from debt' was indeed an apt phrase.

And after having solved this debt issue, Lin Dong spent the rest of his time on cultivation. There was only about a month left of the two month deadline. He needed to increase his strength as quickly as possible over this period, or else, it would be a pain in the head to face Wei Tong's advanced Yuan Dan stage strength.

Therefore, in the following half a month, Lin Dong rarely left the inn. Besides making trips to the Thousand Gold Association to purchase elixirs after using up his elixir pills, he spent the majority of his time immersed in cultivation.

As he completely immersed himself in his training, the progress that he achieved was also extremely pleasing.

First was the 'Tri Sun Art'. In half a month, Lin Dong had opened twenty out of the twenty two channels, only the last channels that were the most difficult to unblock were still being mischievously resistant. Yet, based on this efficiency, completely opening them was only a matter of time.

As these twenty channels were unblocked, the 'Tri Sun Art's' might also gradually started to show itself. Previously, he could only absorb the energy within the Yin Yang Pearl for at most an hour before the Yuan Power Qi ball in his Dantian would have expanded to the limit, unable to absorb any more Yuan Power.

But after twenty channels of 'Tri Sun Art' were opened, that mere one hour of absorption had more than tripled, while the Yuan Power Qi ball within his Dantian also grew increasingly condensed. So much so that he could faintly sense a kind of mist-like energy lingering around...

The appearance of this mist-like energy was a sign of the Yuan Dan forming!

While Lin Dong was achieving significant progress in his Yuan Power cultivation, his Mental Energy was also improving. Since he possessed such an efficient tool, the Mind Millstones, Lin Dong's Mental Energy quietly grew each day. Meanwhile, the crack on his Destiny Soul Symbol began to enlarge, until eventually, it began to exhibit signs of splitting. Right now, only one tiny trace of Mental Energy, just like a broken lotus root, was still stubbornly resisting.

However, this type of resistance was as futile as a praying mantis trying to block a car...

Everything was rapidly progressing according to Lin Dong's expectations!

And, while Lin Dong was engaged in his training, some unknown troubles began to stealthily approach. The source of these troubles was of course the Blood Wolf Gang.

The Blood Wolf Gang was no virtuous existence in Yan City. With just himself and a knife in hand, Yue Shan had single-handedly established this faction in Yan City. Right now, he had even broken through to the perfect Yuan Dan stage and was only one step away from the Creation stage. Therefore, even in Yan City, he was considered as a legendary figure.

However, this legendary figure in Yan City continued to remain bitter after they lost the Celestial Dan Pool to the Thousand Gold Association. If they had obtained that Celestial Dan Pool, they could nurture at least two or three more Yuan Dan practitioners, and this would be a significant gain for them. After all, even in the entire Blood Wolf Gang, the number of Yuan Dan practitioners could be counted on one hand.

As the Blood Wolf Gang brooded over the sudden appearance of Lin Dong, they naturally did not forget to investigate this foreigner.

Thanks to the Blood Wolf Gang's capabilities, it was not a

difficult task for them to uncover Lin Dong's background. In less than ten days, Yue Shan had obtained all the information regarding Lin Dong and the Lin Family.

However, when Yue Shan obtained these information, he also received a letter from the Thousand Gold Association. In Yan City, the Thousand Gold Association's influence was definitely not inferior to that of the Blood Wolf Gang's. In fact, with regards to obtaining information, the former definitely surpassed the Blood Wolf Gang. Therefore, the fact that the latter was investigating the Lin Family naturally did not escape their sights.

The Thousand Gold Association's Xia Wanjin and Xuan Su were extremely fond of Lin Dong's potential. Furthermore, the two of them were decisive people, since they wanted to rope him in, they naturally could not ignore the Blood Wolf Gang's actions.

With regards to the letter, what was written on it was merely some words regarding the relationship between the Thousand Gold Association and the Lin Family, asking Sect Leader Yue Shan to 'give face'. Ultimately, the letter's true motive was to warn the Blood Wolf Gang not to secretly make a move on the Lin Family...

When he received this somewhat threatening letter from the Thousand Gold Association, Yue Shan was furious. However, even though he was angry, he did not dare to openly oppose the former just to deal with the tiny Lin Family.

Even though they were both considered as the top three factions in Yan City, truth be told, the Blood Wolf Gang was slightly inferior. After all, they were a vicious group and had made

countless enemies in order to climb to the top. Right now, these factions obviously did not dare to openly go against the Blood Wolf Gang. However, should they land in a precarious position, those factions would definitely stab them in the back.

And such a precarious position would definitely occur if they decide to openly oppose a fellow top-tier faction like the Thousand Gold Association...

There were several skilled practitioners in the Thousand Gold Association. Yet the crucial thing was their wealth. Thanks to the immense lure of money, the Thousand Gold Association could definitely attract numerous allies. At that time, the Blood Wolf Gang would have a huge headache.

However, based on Yue Shan's character, he was not a man that would easily accept such an outcome. Thus, after going through numerous pieces of information, he finally learnt about the feud between the Blood Cloth Sect and the Lin Family.

In the one of the huge halls of the Blood Wolf Gang's headquarters, several people were seated. One of them was the one who had brought a whole troop to the Lin Family's doorstep, the leader of Blood Cloth Sect, Wei Tong.

"Sect leader, our Blood Cloth Sect indeed has some grievances with the Lin Family. Gu Ying was killed by that boy named Lin Dong and I have scheduled a death match with him. In half a month, we will see who comes up on top in Yan City's duel arena." When he heard Yue Shan straightaway asked about the feud between the Blood Cloth Sect and the Lin Family, Wei Tong was

first slightly shocked before he carefully answered. He had thought that Lin Family had somehow built some relations with the Blood Wolf Gang.

“It is indeed Lin Dong!” Upon hearing these words, Yue Shan’s eyes slightly narrowed.

“Sect Leader, if you have some history with Lin Dong, I can definitely let him off the hook.” After witnessing this sight, Wei Tong hurriedly said.

“Let him off the hook? Why should you do that?” Yue Shan sneered as he gazed at Wei Tong’s stunned expression. Then, his cold voice rang out: “The Lin Family has recently grown close to the Thousand Gold Association.”

“The Thousand Gold Association?” Wei Tong’s facial expression changed slightly. Even though the Blood Cloth Sect was quite powerful in Yan City, they could not match up against the Thousand Gold Association. He never expected that in just a single month, the Lin Family had actually managed to ally themselves with this huge tree. This fact caused his head to ache. If he really exterminated the Lin Family, the Thousand Gold Association would definitely pursue this matter.

“Don’t worry about the Thousand Gold Association. This was a willing death match between the two of you, no one else can interfere. My Blood Wolf Gang will ensure this. Meanwhile, I have a task for you.” Yue Shan spoke.

“Sect Leader, please instruct me!” When he heard that the Blood Wolf Gang was supporting them, Wei Tong was slightly bolstered as he hurriedly said.

“Kill that kid called Lin Dong. I want you to show absolutely no mercy!” Yue Shan coldly commanded. Since the Thousand Gold Association wanted to recruit this boy, he must make use of this opportunity to destroy him!

When he heard the callousness in Yue Shan’s words, Wei Tong’s was slightly taken aback. Promptly, with a vicious smile, he nodded his head: “Don’t worry sect leader. I will rip that boy to shreds inside the Duel Arena!”

Time steadily passed. Somehow, the news of Wei Tong and Lin Dong’s death match quietly began to spread across Yan City. With regards to the latter, most major factions in Yan City did not know about him. However, most of them had heard of Wei Tong. Even in Yan City, an advanced Yuan Dan stage elite would be fairly well known. Meanwhile, his opponent was reputed to be a mere seventeen year old boy.

This match-up caused several people to be stunned as they inwardly shook their heads. Who could this audacious young boy actually be?

While news of this matter fervently travelled across the entire Yan City, Lin Dong was still training himself intensively. Currently, he had reached the most critical juncture.

Thanks to the magical effects of the Yin Yang Pearl, in less than a month, the Yuan Power in Lin Dong's Dantian had grown tremendously, until it had eventually reached the limit. At that moment, the Yuan Power Qi ball began to swirl frantically.

Yin and Yang Energy had finally begun to exhibit signs of harmonizing!

Chapter 122: Fortune does not come alone

A vigorous energy rippled across the quiet room. Lin Dong was seated on his bed as portions of Yuan Power, which could be seen by the naked eye, curled around his body like smoke.

While Lin Dong appeared very calm on the outside, the inside of his body was the the complete opposite.

Within his Dantian, the Yuan Power Qi ball had already taken up an overwhelming majority of the space. Inside the Qi ball were two entirely different attributes, however, the Yin Yang Energy which had originally rejected each other, were now no longer resisting each other's contact. Instead, traces of Yuan Power twined around them, constantly fusing them together.

Lin Dong's full attention was on the slowly fusing Yuan Power Qi ball in his Dantian. Understanding what this meant, a sliver of excitement arose in his heart. However, he quickly calmed himself down and urged the Yuan Power Qi ball in his Dantian as it slowly began to spin.

“Running water sounds...”

As the Yuan Power Qi ball revolved, the vigorous Yuan Power inside it also started to emit a clear sound of running water as strands of moist mist-like energy continuously drifted out from within.

The Yuan Power Qi ball rotated faster and faster, so much so that

it started to emit a buzzing sound. At that rate of rotation, even the entire Dantian also started to vibrate.

When the Yuan Power Qi ball's speed gradually reached the utmost limit, the fusion rate of the Yin and Yang Energies within it also became faster and faster.

Yin and Yang harmonizes, condensing into the Yuan Dan!

This was the most important step in condensing the Yuan Dan!

At this time, Lin Dong did not dare to be even the slightest bit slow. All of his attention was concentrated on the Dantian.

While the Yuan Power Qi ball frantically spun, the originally vigorous Yuan Power inside it also started to decrease noticeably, and as the Yuan Power decreased, more and more mist-like energy seemed to fill the air.

This mist-like energy had a different attribute from the usual Yuan Power. The mist contained a perfect Yin Yang Energy, in the past, the Yin and Yang Energy would crazily reject each other after coming into contact. Yet now, they had already perfectly fused to become a newer and stronger product.

“Wuu!”

Without any signs of slowing down, Lin Dong spun the Yuan Power Qi ball at high speed as the Yuan Power within became

lesser and lesser. In the end, all of the Yuan Power was thoroughly used up.

When the Yuan Power was exhausted, Lin Dong did not immediately proceed to the next step. With a flick of his wrist, a Yin Yang Pearl flashed into existence.

After going through Lin Dong's unceasing absorption over the past month, this Yin Yang Pearl had shrunk to half its size. Even the alternating black and white colors on it had become much fainter.

Yet, though this was so, the energy contained inside this Yin Yang Pearl was still rather considerable.

Once the Yin Yang Pearl appeared, portions of pure energy were like a flood as they poured into the Yuan Power Qi ball within Lin Dong's Dantian. Likewise, Lin Dong did not refuse this energy as he once again spun the Qi ball, turning the incoming energy into threads of mist-like energy which drifted about in his Dantian.

As the Yin Yang Pearl continuously poured in energy, Lin Dong continued this refining cycle, the mist-like energy within his Dantian growing denser and denser.

“Crack!”

This seemingly endless absorption lasted for a long time until a tiny crack suddenly formed on the Yin Yang Pearl in Lin Dong's

hand. Quickly, the crack enlarged and the entire Yin Yang Pearl turned to dust. Evidently, the energy within it had been completely used up.

After sucking dry the Yin Yang Pearl, Lin Dong's Dantian was nearly filled to the brim with the fused Yin Yang Energy. The amount even caused Lin Dong's Dantian to feel a little bloated.

“Phew...”

When he sensed the exceptionally vigorous mist-like energy in his Dantian, Lin Dong nodded his head in satisfaction. With a nudge, the Yuan Power Qi ball actually started to spin speedily in reverse as a suction force exploded outwards.

“Wuu!”

As the suction force violently gushed out, the mist-like energy flocked back into the Qi ball as if it had been pulled by some force.

Under this suction force, all the mist-like energy within the Dantian almost instantaneously squeezed into the Yuan Power Qi ball. Immediately, the high speed rotation caused the mist to swiftly dissipate as tiny drops of liquid energy actually appeared inside the ball of Qi!

In a short few minutes, the abundant mist-like energy inside the Dantian had been transformed into dozens of drops of extremely tiny liquid energy!

“Yin and Yang harmonize, Yuan Dan, condense!”

When all the mist-like energy had been concentrated into liquid energy, Lin Dong abruptly shouted out in his heart. Immediately, as if a huge invisible fist was firmly squeezing the Qi ball, the few drops of liquid energy were forcefully fused together.

“Bang bang bang!”

An invisible force continuously hammered at the Qi ball. Wave after wave of tremendous force rained down onto the liquid energy, directly causing the drops of liquid energy to be forcibly smashed together!

“Chi chi!”

As more and more of the liquid energy was forcefully condensed together, an immense pressure directly caused the liquid to slowly solidify. Immediately following, a toe-sized Dan slowly took shape!

This Dan was only half the size of a toe and was not smooth and round. However, the Yuan Power undulations that emitted from it were very palpitating.

Embryonic Yuan Dan!

Drop by drop, the liquid energy was ruthlessly shot at the

embryonic Yuan Dan before swiftly fusing into it. And as the plentiful liquid energy adhered to it, lumps on the embryonic Yuan Dan slowly melted away as the Yuan Power undulation multiplied in strength.

Chi chi chi chi!

Minute sounds rang out from inside the Dantian as the numerous fused Yin Yang liquid energy were like meteors as they streaked across the Dantian before finally flying, like moths into the flame, into the embryonic Yuan Dan.

“Buzz buzz!”

Though the liquid energy in the Dantian was rather substantial, it was eventually used up and as the last drop of liquid energy fused into the embryonic Yuan Dan, Lin Dong’s body was suddenly jolted. An indescribable formidable feeling diffused out of his Dantian before finally spreading to every part of his body!

That kind of formidable power was incomparable to that of the Heavenly Yuan Late Stage. This was akin to a metamorphosis! And not merely an increase in strength!

Initial Yuan Dan Stage!

At this stage, one could call oneself a practitioner. Before this, one would only be a common expert!

This was a completely different level from the Heavenly Yuan Stage!

In the room, Lin Dong's tightly shut eyes abruptly opened. Light zapped across his eyes like electricity before scattering into nothingness a split second later.

“Phew...”

Lin Dong heavily spit out a ball of white Qi. His mouth slightly opened as a Dan gently floated out.

This was the scene of Lin Dong successfully condensing a Yuan Dan!

Currently, the Yuan Dan was only the size of a thumb and the color of this Yuan Dan was not milky white but instead faintly gold. From its appearance, one could tell that it was vastly different from the Yuan Dan Lin Zhentian had formed.

Plus, on the the round and smooth surface of the Yuan Dan were eight extremely tiny star patterns!

Eight star Yuan Dan!

Even Lin Dong could not help but be somewhat dazed as he looked at the eight star marks. It was a good time later before he finally regained his senses and gasped.

An eight star Yuan Dan. This grade was so high that it had somewhat exceeded Lin Dong's expectations. Although the Yin and Yang Energy he had absorbed when he was at the Earthly Yuan and Heavenly Yuan stages respectively were not ordinary, he did not foresee that he would actually be able to condense a Yuan Dan of such quality.

Originally, he had thought that even with the Yin Energy from Qingtan's body and the Yang Energy from the mining cave, plus the Yin Yang Pearl later on, the final result would at most be six or seven stars. Yet, this fresh from the oven Yuan Dan was actually a genuine eight star Yuan Dan!

“Haha!”

Gradually recovering his wits, Lin Dong could not help but be so emotionally moved that he laughed out heartily. After such a long period of cultivation, he had finally obtained a proper reward.

At long last, he had truly stepped through the doors of the Yuan Dan stage!

Lin Dong opened his mouth and retrieved the Yuan Dan into his Dantian. Just as he was about to get up, a tiny tremble was suddenly emitted from within his Niwan Palace.

This trembling first caused Lin Dong to be stunned, though soon after, his expression instantly flushed red as his body started to shudder violently. At this moment, he could sense that the Destiny

Soul Symbol in his Niwan Palace was unexpectedly struggling free of that tiny Mental Energy twine and dividing into two!

Inside the Niwan Palace, the original Destiny Soul Symbol had already faded. In its place, were two similarly sized and identical Soul Symbols. They quietly floated in his Niwan Palace as chunks of strong Mental Energy was spit out from within the two Soul Symbols.

Second seal, the mark of a second seal Symbol Master!

At the same time as which he successfully advanced to the Yuan Dan stage, Lin Dong's Mental Energy had also unexpectedly achieved a breakthrough!

Initial Yuan Dan stage and a second seal Symbol Master!

People often say that 'disaster does not strike alone and fortune never comes in pairs'. Yet, when it came to Lin Dong, it was more akin to 'disaster never striking twice and fortune never coming alone'!

Now, Lin Dong's strength was rapidly rising at a terrifying speed!

Chapter 123: Initial Yuan Dan, second seal

Symbol Master

Lin Dong was like a wooden stake as he dazedly stood in the room. The sudden arrival of this double fortune caused him to feel blissfully happy, as if he had been ruthlessly smashed into a meat pie. Even though he understood that these two meat pies would have come sooner or later, he had never expected that they would arrive together.

A Mental Energy breakthrough was even easier to achieve compared to condensing a Yuan Dan. After all, Lin Dong had crazily tempered himself at the Mind Millstones over this period of time and this was not without reward. The crack originally on the Destiny Soul Symbol was long ago at its limit, only being stubbornly held back by a sliver of Mental Energy.

When Lin Dong advanced to the Yuan Dan stage, his entire being had abruptly made a giant leap forward. This had also become the final key to splitting the Destiny Soul Symbol, forcefully tearing apart that final stubborn chain of Mental Energy.

As a result, the original Destiny Soul Symbol had successfully divided into two!

And Lin Dong had also finally achieved the result he needed after toiling so much and so hard.

“Phew...”

In the room, after being in a dazed state for a long while, Lin Dong finally came to his senses as he deeply breathed out. From now onwards he was able to truly stand shoulder to shoulder with other practitioners. Given his initial Yuan Dan stage strength, the sudden breakthrough to the second seal stage, plus being equipped with Mental Energy comparable to a third seal Symbol Master, the sum of his combined abilities would not be inferior to that of Wei Tong, an advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner!

The current him truly did not fear Wei Tong, nor the Blood Cloth Sect!

In two months, he had reversed the Lin Family's miserable situation. If Wei Tong knew about this, it was highly likely that he would regret not heartlessly exterminating the Lin Family that day.

Yet, evidently, he did not have a chance to regret and Lin Dong would not give him that chance. That day, when Wei Tong came to their doorstep, forcing the Lin Family to angrily suffer in silence, if it were not for the fact that Wei Tong was 'restrained' by Lin Dong, perhaps that event would have been a bloodbath.

Since Wei Tong wanted to wipe out his Lin Family, Lin Dong would naturally not show the former even the slightest mercy!

“There are still a few days left. Wei Tong, wash your neck and wait!”

In the room, Lin Dong softly murmured to himself, the cold light that flashed in his eyes was extremely icy.

Since he had made breakthroughs in Yuan Power and Mental Energy at the same time, Lin Dong no longer continued his intense closed-door training. There were only a few days left till their two-month appointment and after having shutting himself indoors to cultivate for so long, it was time to relax a little.

Therefore, after slightly tidying himself up, Lin Dong walked out of the inn and strolled about in Yan City. While he strolled, he was somewhat amazed when he found that during this month, someone had spread news of his duel to the death with Wei Tong, causing the city to be abuzz. News of this event was the most popular topic in inns and restaurants.

“Heh, seems like the Blood Cloth Sect had used this death duel as a form of advertisement for themselves.” When he realized what was happening, Lin Dong involuntarily chuckled. Besides the Blood Cloth Sect, who else would purposely do such a thing?

The reason why Wei Tong would publicize this news was likely because he felt that his victory was already set in stone. At that time, he would be able to display his strength to many people, allowing him to improve the Blood Cloth Sect’s reputation.

With regards to Wei Tong’s way of thinking, Lin Dong merely sarcastically grinned his heart. Soon after, he turned and headed towards the Thousand Gold Association.

“Little brother Lin Dong, I have not seen you for half a month. If it were not for the fact that you had already cleared your debt, I would have thought that you had ran away.” In Xuan Su’s study, Xuan Su gazed at the youngster who had walked in through the door and involuntarily revealed her lovely smile as she teased.

“The life or death duel was imminent, naturally, I was training with all my might.” Lin Dong grinned as he replied.

Upon hearing the words ‘life or death duel’, the smile on Xuan Su’s pretty face somewhat dimmed, her eyebrows slightly knitting together as she replied: “Recently, this has been the hottest topic in Yan City. Through our investigation, we found that it was the Blood Wolf Gang that has been adding fuel to the fire. Looks like they hold a grudge against you after the Celestial Dan Pool affair.”

“It was the Blood Wolf Gang?” Lin Dong’s expression changed a little. He had never expected that the barbaric-looking Yue Shan would actually turn out to be so devious.

“The Blood Wolf Gang has done their homework on you. They should know that you are part of the Lin Family, however, you need not worry too much. Our Thousand Gold Association has already sent a ‘warning’ letter to them. I doubt that Yue Shen would dare to do anything to the Lin Family.” Xuan Su softly said.

After hearing this, Lin Dong’s expression darkened a little. Soon after, he thanked her in a sincere tone: “Many thanks, big sister Su.”

“You’re the sinecure of our Thousand Gold Association and someone we’re keen on building relations with, thus it’s natural for us to show our sincerity. Big sister is merely doing a long-term investment, if little brother Lin Dong achieves meteoric success in the future, don’t forget to support our Thousand Gold Association.” Xuan Su laughed as she said.

“Don’t worry big sister Su, if there is anyway I can help in the future, Lin Dong would definitely do his best.” Lin Dong earnestly replied. Regardless of whether the Thousand Gold Association invested in him due to his potential or not, what they had done had indeed caused him to feel some good will towards them, and Lin Dong was not an ungrateful person.

Xuan Su faintly smiled as her beautiful eyes swept across Lin Dong’s body. She was suddenly stunned as she cried out in a shocked voice: “You’ve advanced to the Yuan Dan stage?”

Xuan Su was after all an advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner, and therefore rather sensitive to Yuan Power undulations. She had discovered that the undulations that emitted from Lin Dong’s body were actually several times stronger than before!

“Yea, I’ve coincidentally made a breakthrough today.” Lin Dong chuckled as he nodded his head.

“Tch tch, looks like our Thousand Gold Association’s investment was indeed the right one.” Xuan Su clicked her tongue as she spoke. She suddenly recalled that when she first saw Lin Dong, the latter only seemed to be at the Heavenly Yuan middle stage. Yet, in less than two months, the latter had now actually become a true-

blue Yuan Dan stage practitioner. This kind of speed caused her heartbeat to quietly quicken a little. Apparently, her discerning eyes were excessively spot-on this time.

“With your initial Yuan Dan stage strength in addition to the Mental Energy comparable to a second seal Symbol Master, you indeed have the power to contend against Wei Tong. However, you still need to be extra careful.” Xuan Su warned. As another advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner, she clearly understood the battle power Wei Tong possessed.

“I will.” Lin Dong nodded in response, naturally, he would not make the mistake of underestimating his opponent.

“Manager Su, the ones you instructed us previously to take note of have once again come to the association...” While Lin Dong was chatting with Xuan Su, a servant girl suddenly walked near as she respectfully reported.

“Oh?” After hearing this news, Xuan Su was slightly startled. Soon after, she remembered and her beautiful eyes immediately turned to Lin Dong as she sweetly smiled: “Little brother Lin Dong, you should go meet these people...”

“Who?” Lin Dong was also startled for a moment, but after he saw Xuan Su’s teasing gaze, he suddenly regained his wits, pleasantly surprised as he asked: “Is it father and the rest?”

“Yes.” Xuan Su lightly smiled as she nodded her head.

In one of the guest rooms of the Thousand Gold Association, Lin Zhentian, Lin Xiao, Lin Ken and the rest were seated. At their side was a middle-aged man who seemed to be a manager. Currently, he had a smiling expression on his face as he warmly received them.

Towards the manager who had become so cordial though he had only flatly nodded to them in the past, Lin Zhentian and the rest were clearly somewhat amazed. Previously, when they had come here to sell Yang Yuan stones, although this guy was not excessively difficult towards them, his attitude was rather cold, to which Lin Zhentian and the rest could do nothing about. After all, the Thousand Gold Association was one of the top three factions in Yan City, this kind of haughtiness was natural.

As the manager turned to instruct a servant girl, Lin Ken stealthily stretched his head forward and said in a low voice: “There seems to be something amiss.”

In the Thousand Gold Association’s eyes, their Lin Family was just an ordinary faction, what could have caused this manager to receive them so warmly? It is said that ‘when matters out of the ordinary occur, there must be something wrong’, therefore, Lin Ken and the rest could not help but be on guard.

Lin Zhentian secretly nodded in response. Just as he was about to speak, the sounds of hurried footsteps sounded out from behind the door before the door at the back of the room was pushed open.

As the door opened, a graceful beauty entered. When the manager saw this, he hastily bowed and greeted her.

“To think that it is the general manager of the Thousand Gold Association.”

When they saw Xuan Su appear, Lin Zhentian’s and the rest’s hearts shuddered, they had naturally heard of this renowned figure in the Thousand Gold Association. However, what caused them to be puzzled was: Why had the former come to discuss matters with them?

“Grandfather, father!”

While Lin Zhentian and the rest were feeling puzzled, a familiar voice was suddenly heard from behind Xuan Su. Soon after, a figure quickly walked out, revealing himself to be Lin Dong.

“Dong-er?”

As they gazed at Lin Dong who had walked out from behind Xuan Su, Lin Zhentian and the rest were greatly alarmed as amazement filled their faces.

“Hehe, greetings to the grandfather Lin, the fact that the Lin Family has a genius like little brother Lin Dong is truly envious.” Xuan Su elegantly took two steps forward as she bowed towards Lin Zhentian and lightly smiled.

Lin Zhentian hastily returned a bow. Although he was a lot older than Xuan Su, the latter’s strength and position much higher than

his own.

“Dong-er, why are you here?” Lin Xiao also had a joyous look on his face. Ever since Lin Dong had left for Yan City alone, his father had constantly worried.

“I’ve become a sinecure at the Thousand Gold Association.” Lin Dong replied.

“Oh?”

After hearing this, Lin Zhentian and the rest were somewhat surprised, a sinecure of the Thousand Gold Association was not a position any ordinary person could obtain. Yet, soon after, they suddenly realised why the manager had been so cordial upon seeing them, such that even the general manager of the Thousand Gold Association had come out to meet them. It turns out that it was all because of Lin Dong.

“Most of the Lin Family matters have been dealt with, we came to Yan City this time to find you...” Lin Xiao softly said as he gazed at his son who seemed to have greatly matured over these two months.

“There are only four days till the life or death duel...if you are not prepared, don’t turn up.” Lin Xiao’s last few words were very soft, such that only Lin Dong could hear them.

As Lin Dong gazed at Lin Xiao, who had a serious look on his face,

a warm feeling blossomed in Lin Dong's heart as he gently nodded his head, an absolute sense of confidence in his calm voice.

“Father, don't worry, I am sure.”

Chapter 124: Showing his Strength

Since Lin Zhentian and the rest had arrived at Yan City, Lin Dong naturally needed to accompany them. Therefore, after briefly discussing their strategy at the Thousand Gold Association, they took off and returned to a manor that the Lin Family owned in Yan City. Even though the Lin Family came from Qingyang Town, they owned several small enterprises in Yan City. Thus, they evidently had a few places to lodge at.

With regards to the fact that Lin Zhentian and the rest were staying at Yan City, Lin Dong was not too worried about it. Right now, he no longer feared the Blood Cloth Sect. Furthermore, since they had established a pretty good relationship with the Thousand Gold Association, the Lin Family now had a rather solid footing in Yan City.

When the group returned to the manor, they immediately closed the manor doors, before all of them looked to Lin Dong, serious expressions on their faces.

“Dong-er, we have secretly shifted away the younger generation members of our Lin Family. Therefore, even if the Blood Cloth Sect decides to wipe us out, we can preserve some of our bloodlines.”

Lin Zhentian solemnly stared at the youth before him as he echoed deeply: “In another four day, the death match between you and Wei Tong will occur. If you are not certain of victory, now is the time to leave! While there is life, there is hope!”

“Wei Tong is an extremely vicious man. In this death match, should he have the opportunity, he would definitely take your life. After that, he will not show any mercy in dealing with our Lin Family!”

As he stared at the solemn expression on Lin Zhentian, Lin Dong silently nodded his head. He knew that right now, the Lin Family had staked all their hopes on him.

“Grandpa, news of this duel has been fervently spread around Yan City. If I can emerge victorious, it would be a tremendous publicity opportunity for our Lin Family. In the future, we will be able to gradually expand our operations to Yan City. Furthermore, with the aid from the Thousand Gold Association, our accomplishments here will definitely surpass those in Qingyang Town.” Lin Dong pursed his lips as he softly replied.

“I know that it would be hugely beneficial to our Lin Family if we win. However, what if we lose...?” Lin Zhentian slowly asked.

“Grandpa, I will not lose.” The youth gently shook his head. As he lifted his head up, an exceptionally determined look could be seen on his somewhat immature face.

As they stared at Lin Dong’s steely expression, Lin Zhentian and the rest looked to each other in dismay. They did not know how Lin Dong could be so confident in himself. After all, Wei Tong was an advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner.

“Receive my attack!”

Lin Zhentian stared at Lin Dong. A while later, he suddenly shouted out. At that moment, an exceedingly powerful white energy quickly wrapped around his arm. Promptly, his two fingers straightened as a powerful force immediately rippled through the air and was heavily thrust towards Lin Dong.

Based on his actions, it seems like he personally intended to test Lin Dong's current strength!

Furthermore, Lin Zhentian did not hold back at all in this attack, as he immediately utilized the Pure Yuangang Energy that only Yuan Dan practitioners could use, and even used the Lin Family's 'Chunyuan Finger'.

When they saw Lin Zhentian's formidable blow, Lin Xiao, Lin Ken and the rest's facial expressions changed. To counter Lin Zhentian's attack, Lin Dong would probably have to use his secret hidden weapon, Mental Energy...

Of course, reality defied their expectations. As he faced Lin Zhentian's formidable finger-attack, Lin Dong had a calm expression on his face. Meanwhile, there was not a trace of Mental Energy undulation surrounding his body. In fact, he seemingly took no action as he calmly stood and faced Lin Zhentian's stabbing finger attack.

Lin Dong's actions caused Lin Xiao and the rest to be extremely alarmed. However, based on their understanding of the former, they knew that Lin Dong was not truly helpless.

This time round, their predictions were correct. Just as Lin Zhentian's formidable finger attack was only several inches from Lin Dong, the latter suddenly raised his palm. His two fingers straightened into a sword as a similarly powerful force quickly gathered around his fingers. Faintly, one could see a trace of gold amongst that force.

“Pure Yuangang Energy!”

When they saw that familiar faintly golden energy on Lin Dong's fingers, Lin Xiao and the rest were shocked as they involuntarily cried out.

“Bang!”

When both of their fingers collided, a hurricane-like wind erupted from the epicenter, and directly forced Lin Xiao and the rest several steps back before they somewhat managed to regain their footing.

When the powerful wind gushed out, it directly uprooted a layer of mud in the manor. As mud splattered, Lin Xiao and the rest, who had just stabilized themselves, were shocked to see that Lin Zhentian was also being pushed back. His foot drew a long line on the ground before he finally used the stone stairs to stop himself.

“You have advanced to the initial Yuan Dan stage?!”

After his body came to a stop, Lin Zhentian lifted his head and stared at Lin Dong in disbelief. Unexpectedly, the latter was not forced to retreat even half a step back. Previously, when Lin Dong made his move, he had only used the Yuan Power in his body and had yet to utilize Mental Energy at all!

The same move under the same circumstances had clashed, yet Lin Zhentian had been forcefully blown back. This could only point to one conclusion, that Lin Dong had advanced to the initial Yuan Dan stage!

This outcome caused Lin Zhentian, Lin Xiao and the rest to involuntarily suck in a breath of cold air. When Lin Dong left Qingyang Town, he was merely at Heavenly Yuan Middle Stage. However, in less than two months, he had directly advanced to the initial Yuan Dan stage. His progress was simply monstrous!

Right now, they finally understood why Lin Dong was so confident. Since he had advanced to the initial Yuan Dan stage and in addition possessed Mental Energy that could match up a second seal Symbol Master, Lin Dong now had the power to give the advanced Yuan Dan stage Wei Tong an even fight!

“I had a breakthrough a few days ago.”

As he stared at their shocked glances, Lin Dong gently smiled. He knew that if he was unable to show that he could match up against Wei Tong, Lin Zhentian and the rest would definitely prevent him from going to the death match!

“Great! Great!”

Right now, Lin Zhentian’s elderly face was flustered. The shock and disbelief in his eyes immediately turned into delight as his emotions overwhelmed him, causing him to cry out involuntarily.

Advancing to Yuan Dan stage at such a tender age. Notwithstanding Yan City, even in this entire Great Yan Empire, there were only a rare few examples. In fact, even the widely touted genius in the Lin Clan, Lin Langtian, only managed to advance to the Yuan Dan stage when he was twenty years old. Therefore, the current Lin Dong had surpassed the him of that time by two years!

Lin Xiao, Lin Ken and the rest were extremely delighted. In these past two months, the Blood Cloth Sect and Wei Tong had pressured them constantly. Even though Lin Dong’s delaying tactics had bought them two more months, during these period, they were still unable to come up with any effective solutions to counter the Blood Cloth Sect. Thus, they were already prepared to fight to their deaths against the Blood Cloth Sect during this trip to Yan City. However, before they committed themselves, they wanted to ensure Lin Dong’s safety.

In the manor, after celebrating for quite a while, Lin Zhentian gradually began to recovered his senses. Slightly tearful, he stared at Lin Dong, but soon after, a solemn expression promptly resurfaced on his face: “Right now, your strength has grown tremendously. However, Wei Tong is no walk in the park. You must not be careless. Since you have agreed to a death match with Wei Tong, we will accompany you. If you win, that would be great.

However, if you lose, even at the expense of my life, I will make their Blood Cloth Sect pay!”

In a death match, only one can live. If Lin Dong lost, based on Wei Tong’s character, he will definitely not spare him. At that time, Lin Zhentian and the rest will definitely fight with the Blood Cloth Sect!

Lin Dong gently nodded his head as he saw the killing intent in Lin Zhentian’s eyes. He knew that if he lost, Lin Zhentian and the rest probably did not intend to leave Yan City alive as well.

Therefore, this time, he can only win. He must not lose!

“Wei Tong, your worthless life is mine!”

.....

For the following four days, Lin Zhentian and the rest stayed in Yan City. They had brought several elites from the Lin Family for this trip. True to their word, if Lin Dong really lost, they would stake everything and fight against the Blood Cloth Sect till their last breaths.

Based on Blood Cloth Sect’s capabilities, they had probably guessed that Lin Zhentian would amass a significant force to accompany him to Yan City. However, they did not take any precautionary measures. From Wei Tong’s perspective, the Lin Family was merely a fish on his chopping board. After he finished

Lin Dong off in the duel arena, the Lin Family would no longer pose a threat to him. At that time, all their lives would be at his sole discretion.

While both factions harboured a different perspective, four days stealthily passed.

When the dawn of the fourth day arrived, Yan City, just like usual, quickly became crowded. However, today, there were many curious individuals, who were now rushing towards the dual arena in the middle of the city. It seems like the promotional efforts of the Blood Wolf Gang had finally paid off, as many people were now excited by this death match. Many of them were eager to find out whether the youth from Lin Family was just a foolish and arrogant brat, or an elite that could match up against a man, that was fairly renowned even in Yan City, Wei Tong!

As the atmosphere outside started to heat up, inside the manor the Lin Family was staying at, a door was slowly pushed open. Lin Dong slowly walked out and lifted his head to gaze at the warm sunlight that shined down from the sky. Meanwhile, a cold smile slowly formed on his face.

“Let’s go.”

As he lowered his head, Lin Dong looked at Lin Zhentian and the rest, who were already waiting for him in the manor. Without further ado, he waved his hand as he directly exited the manor. Behind him, Lin Zhentian and the rest also waved their hands as they indicated the other Lin Family elites to follow. From the back, Lin Dong’s figure held a somewhat suave yet cold aura.

If they emerged victorious this time, their Lin Family would be able to fully establish themselves in Yan City. However, if they lost, they would merely become another mark in the Blood Cloth Sect's bloody reputation.

Therefore, defeat was not an option for Lin Dong. This time, he would definitely take Wei Tong's life!

Chapter 125: Deathmatch

The duel arena was situated slightly to the north of the city center and was also considered as one of the more popular spots in Yan City. There were tons of people in Yan City and the number of factions were too many to count. Fights were commonplace here and also a headache to the city administration. To resolve these disputes, the duel arena was born. There, no one would say anything even if you flipped the skies, which is to say that even killing would not be against the rules.

Even though this move did not manage to completely bring peace to Yan City, it was still rather effective. Furthermore, as it slowly developed, it gradually became a fairly popular venue in Yan City that many chose to settle their disputes.

When Lin Dong and the rest arrived at their destination, they were taken aback as they stared at the massive infrastructure which was at least ten times the size of monster arena in Qingyang Town. It was a long while later before they finally recovered their senses and secretly gasped in their hearts. Yan City was indeed incredible, Qingyang Town could never match up.

The duel arena was a large circular building with numerous entrances and exits all around. Nonetheless, Lin Dong and the rest still witnessed long queues outside. The crowds here were definitely incomparable to those during Qingyang Town's busiest festival, the hunting competition.

“Hehe, little brother Lin Dong, you have arrived rather early.”

Just as Lin Dong and the rest were preparing to enter the duel arena, a pleasing voice suddenly sounded out from behind them. As they turned their heads to look, they saw a large group of people swiftly approaching them. The ones leading the pack were actually Xuan Su and Xia Wanjin from the Thousand Gold Association. Meanwhile, standing besides them, Lin Dong also saw a man that he had not seen for a while, grandmaster Yan.

“Greetings chairman Xia and grandmaster Yan.”

When he saw that even Xia Wanjin had personally arrived, Lin Dong was slightly astonished as he promptly cupped his fists and greeted them. Standing aside, Lin Zhentian and the rest had also evidently heard of the former’s reputation, as they promptly cupped their hands and greeted them too.

“My young friend, Lin Dong, you are now a sinecure of my Thousand Gold Association. Naturally, I will be present to witness this exciting show. Even though I cannot interfere in your deathmatch, if someone else tries to stir trouble for you, my Thousand Gold Association will definitely not agree.” Xia Wanjin was all smiles as he said.

As he spoke, Xia Wanjin’s eyes were carefully scanned Lin Dong’s body. When he felt the faint Yuan Power vibrations from Lin Dong’s body, his eyelids involuntarily twitched.

“Looks like Xuan Su was right, Lin Dong has indeed advanced to the Yuan Dan stage.”

Xia Wanjin blinked as a little admiration surfaced in his heart. Advancing to Yuan Dan stage at such a young age. Though he had reviewed countless people, he was still amazed by Lin Dong's talent. Immediately, the smile on his face turned increasingly gentle. This was not a power-move, but rather a sign of him finally confirming that he had made the right relationship investment this time.

Since he knew that his decision was correct, he would have to go all out with his support. Afterall, anyone could foresee that in the future, perhaps this young man before him would actually advance to the three Creation stages that he himself had been long pining for, or maybe... an even higher level.

At that time, no matter how great the investment, it would be worthwhile.

Lin Dong faintly smiled before he turned around and introduced Lin Zhentian and the rest: "Grandpa, father, this is chairman Xia from the Thousand Gold Association. And this grandmaster Yan, is a fourth seal Symbol Master. He was also the one who introduced me to Mental Energy."

"Haha, you cheeky brat, don't be so humble." Grandmaster Yan smiled as he said. Although he had given Lin Dong the first three layers of "Spiritual Movement Chapter", it was at most enough to help him become a first seal Symbol Master. With regards to the rest of his accomplishments, Lin Dong had earned it on his own.

When they heard the names of these two legendary ground-shaking figures in Yan City, Lin Zhentian and the rest were

shocked. They had never expected that in the two months Lin Dong had spent in Yan City, he would actually be able to establish ties with these renowned figures.

“This brat is really something!”

Lin Zhentian and Lin Xiao turned exchanged a glance. Contained in their eyes were pride and a little resignation. After all, Lin Dong had now completely surpassed them...

“It’s almost time, let’s head in first.”

After they finished their introductions, Xuan Su beautifully smiled as she suggested.

After hearing her words, Lin Dong, Xia Wanjin and the rest nodded their heads. Then, following Xuan Su’s lead, they did not head towards the congested entrances but rather entered the duel arena via a special entrance. As one the top three factions in Yan City, the Thousand Gold Association were naturally able to enjoy several privileges.

After walking for several minutes through the spacious tunnel, the view ahead of them gradually began to open up. Under the rays of the sun, a great buzz subsequently rumbled into their ears.

“Phew...”

As he stared at the colossal duel arena before him, Lin Dong

involuntarily breathed out, as if he wanted to spit out all the surprise in his heart.

The area where Lin Dong and the rest arrived at had a pretty good view. Right now, there were already several people seated in the viewing area. Based on their appearances, it seemed like they were not ordinary characters. Apparently, this viewing area was reserved for the prestigious and powerful individuals in Yan City.

The Thousand Gold Association was one of Yan City's top three factions. Furthermore, with Xia Wanjin and grandmaster Yan personally appearing, many people immediately hurried over to greet them. While Xia Wanjin smiled and entertained them, grandmaster Yan seemed rather distant in comparison. However, no one dared to slight him because of his distant attitude.

“There are several arenas within this duel arena. However, for today, the arena where you will be having a deathmatch with Wei Tong is the most crowded one.” While Lin Dong was surveying the duel arena, Xuan Su smiled as she explained to him.

Lin Dong took a single look at the numerous black bobbing heads around the arena before he nodded his head with a bitter smile. Thanks to the Blood Wolf Gang, this originally private deathmatch had become a widely advertised event.

“Chairman Xia, you have arrived rather early.”

Just as Lin Dong and the rest had their attention on the arena, a familiar laughter suddenly rang out from behind them. When he

heard this laughter, Lin Dong's eyebrows furrowed as he turned his head around. As expected, he found a large group of people swarming in. At their head, was the Blood Wolf Gang's sect leader, Yue Shan. Meanwhile, standing beside him, Lin Dong also saw another familiar figure. That was Blood Cloth Sect's leader, Wei Tong.

When Lin Dong caught sight of Wei Tong, the latter also noticed him. Immediately, a sneer surfaced on his face as his hand lightly traced across the air before him. His intention was clear, he planned to slaughter Lin Dong today.

Lin Dong coldly stared at him. Two months ago, he was an extremely tough opponent. Now, he was no longer such a tricky enemy. Unfortunately, Wei Tong, who thought that he was the lead actor here, failed to understand that the balance of power between them had already gradually tilted away from him.

"Today's deathmatch will be somewhat interesting. It seems like blood will definitely be spilt." Yue Shan slowly walked to stand before Lin Dong as he chuckled. However, that smile on his face seemed exceptionally cold to Lin Dong.

"I never expected you to actually kill Gu Ying of the Blood Cloth Sect. After all, the Blood Cloth Sect is considered as one of the underlings of my Blood Wolf Gang..."

"Yue Shan, Gu Ying went to interfere in another's business. He just received his due desserts." Xia Wanjin casually retorted.

“One must repay his own debts. Your words are meaningless to me. The results shall be settled by today’s deathmatch.” Yue Shan mocked, before he patted Lin Dong’s shoulder: “Young man, I hope you can survive today. I, Yue Shan love talented individuals. If you are interested, you can come to my Blood Wolf Gang in the future.”

After he finished his words, Yue Shan smiled. Without further ado, he walked towards a spot in the viewing area.

“Brat, this time, you have nowhere to run!” Wei Tong stared daggers at Lin Dong as the corners of his mouth curled into a hideous smile.

Lin Dong shot a glance at Wei Tong before he turned his head. His direct disregard caused Wei Tong to boil with rage.

“You can be arrogant now. Soon, I will make you beg for your life!” Wei Tong gnashed his teeth as he sneered. Promptly, he waved his sleeves as he turned to catch up to Yue Shan.

Lin Dong gazed at the backs Yue Shan and the rest as an icy glint flashed in his eyes. Even though Yue Shan looked like a savage brute, he was actually a calculating and vengeful man. For a man like him, if others even slightly offended him, he would immediately treat them as a needle in his eye. Evidently, he planned to make use of Wei Tong to kill him in order to vent his anger. However, it seems like Yue Shan’s plans were likely to fail this time.

“Remember to be cautious.” To one side, Xuan Su solemnly said.

Though Lin Dong had advanced to the Yuan Dan stage, one mistake and he would easily die at the hands of Wei Tong. After all, Wei Tong was a genuine advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner.

Lin Dong faintly smiled as he nodded his head. A lion would use its full strength even when hunting a rabbit, let alone a vicious dog like Wei Tong. This deathmatch will determine the survival of the entire Lin Family. If he lost, his Lin Family would be doomed. Therefore, no matter what, he must emerge victorious!

Not long after the Blood Wolf Gang and the Blood Cloth Sect arrived, the sun in the sky gradually moved to its highest point. Meanwhile, the atmosphere in the duel arena grew even more heated.

There were professional referees in the duel arena. Thus, when noon arrived, a figure emerged in the spacious arena below.

“In a deathmatch, both parties will stake their lives. The outcome will be determined by their respective fates, no one shall resent it!”

As the judge entered the arena, he shouted out the usual rules before he turned to look at Lin Dong and the rest and shouted in a deep voice: “This deathmatch is between Wei Tong from the Blood Cloth Sect and Lin Dong from the Lin Family. May these two individuals come to the stage now!”

“Boom!”

After the judge's voice faded, that Wei Tong immediately swooped onto the stage like an eagle. His eyes were slightly bloodthirsty and he wore a hideous and vicious expression on his face as he stared at to the viewing area and sneered: "Brat from the Lin Family, get your ass down here! Today, this sect leader will make you repay your debt in blood!"

Faced with Wei Tong's sneering, Lin Dong, who was in the viewing area gently tapped off the floor before he lept off the high platform and landed steadily in the arena. A determined look in his eyes, he stared at Wei Tong while his indifferent voice caused Wei Tong to simmer in rage.

"Trash truly spews too much garbage!"

Chapter 126: Doing battle with Wei Tong

“What a smart-mouthed little brat. When I knock off all your teeth one by one later, I shall slice off your tongue too!”

Lin Dong’s casual tone had caused Wei Tong to boil with rage. No matter what, he was quite a powerful individual in Yan City. He had never expected that he would be insulted by Lin Dong in front of such a large crowd. Therefore, for Wei Tong, who was already a very petty individual, the hatred in his heart grew till the extent where he could not wait to rip Lin Dong to shreds.

“Cut the crap, we shall find out after we cross blows.” Lin Dong icily chuckled.

“Boom!”

Wei Tong glared menacingly at Lin Dong. Suddenly, his foot jutted out as a rich Yuan Power immediately gushed out from within his body, causing his robes to writhe about while an extremely oppressive aura dripping with maliciousness filled the air.

The fact that he was able to establish such a powerful faction in Yan City indicated that Wei Tong was no fool. All these years, he had been through countless bloody battles and the skills that he continuously honed through these gruelling battles have kept him alive till now. Therefore, this opponent definitely surpassed every one that Lin Dong have encountered before.

Wei Tong had a ton more battle experience than him. Furthermore, his methods were extremely ruthless and despicable. Hence, if Lin Dong made a slight misstep, he would easily end up dead.

As such, Lin Dong's expression swiftly turned serious.

Even though he was enraged by Lin Dong at first, when he went into battle mode, the rage in Wei Tong's eyes quickly dissipated. In its place was a cold and calculating glint, like that of a bloodthirsty wolf eager to devour its enemy.

In response to Wei Tong's transformation, Lin Dong slightly narrowed his eyes. He finally understood that the reason why the former was able to become the Blood Cloth Sect's leader was because of his own strong points.

This fellow was going to be a formidable opponent.

“Bang!”

Just as this thought flashed across Lin Dong's mind, at the same instance, Wei Tong chose to attack him directly. His figure was swift as lightning, in a flash, he carried an intimidating aura as he appeared in front of Lin Dong. Wei Tong's right fist was clenched as a seemingly ordinary punch was directed towards Lin Dong's chest.

Wei Tong's punch seemed simple and ordinary. However, as his

fist was wrapped in Pure Yuangang Energy, this blow contained more destructive force than a sharp sabre or knife!

“Hmmmm!”

The air surrounding his fist was forcefully blown apart as a deep humming sound echoed out.

As he felt Wei Tong’s formidable attack, Lin Dong’s heart was slightly taken aback. The advanced Yuan Dan stage was indeed incomparable to the initial Yuan Dan stage. Just the force and the intensity of the Pure Yuangang Energy contained in this attack was already several times stronger than Lin Zhentian’s.

In terms of Yuan Power, Lin Dong was lacking compared to Wei Tong. Therefore, he was not foolish enough to directly face off against him. Immediately, his feet began to retreat as waves of Mental Energy swiftly gushed out from his Niwan Palace and formed an invisible Mental Energy barrier in front of him.

“Bang!”

Faced with Lin Dong’s defensive barrier, a look of disdain flashed across Wei Tong’s eyes. With a jolt of his fist, a heavy blow landed on the Mental Energy Barrier as the formidable Pure Yuangang Energy spewed forth like an erupting volcano.

“Crack!”

As it encountered Wei Tong's formidable attack, Lin Dong's Mental Energy barrier did not manage to hold on for long before it was smashed to pieces. Immediately, without giving Lin Dong any room to breath, Wei Tong once again pressed in.

Under Wei Tong's extremely aggressive assault, Lin Dong hastily retreated. Meanwhile, layers of Mental Energy barriers, which Lin Dong barely managed to form, were forcefully blown apart by the former at a terrifying pace.

As they stared at this chase-like scenario in the arena, some hisses of disappointment sounded out from the stands. Many people in the crowd were evidently disappointed. They had originally believed that since this brat from the Lin Family dared to have a death match with Wei Tong, he must be quite capable. However, right now, it seemed like he could only flee from Wei Tong.

With regards to the bystanders' gazes, Lin Dong did not pay any attention to them. His eyes remained tightly glued onto the menacing Wei Tong. Even though Lin Dong had a serious expression on his face, there was not a hint of panic in his eyes.

“Pa!”

As he hastily retreated, Lin Dong's body suddenly came to a halt. His eyes quickly turned to glance at the empty space behind him. In that space, he could detect a familiar vibration: Mental Energy.

“Heh, brat. Once a death match begins, a Mental Energy screen

will be activated. It would be wishful thinking for you to utilise your flying tricks again!”

“Fatal Destruction Fist!”

While Lin Dong was slightly distraught by this fact, Wei Tong closed in once again. As he stared at Lin Dong, who had no further room to retreat, he involuntarily chuckled maliciously. Promptly, a powerful Pure Yuangang Energy violently gushed out before they transformed into a wave of fists that was straightaway directed towards Lin Dong.

As the wave of fists closed in, Lin Dong could see that every part of his body was being targeted by that furious attack. Amongst that wave of fists, he could feel a heart palpitating sensation. That sensation was felt as if a vicious snake was hiding in the bushes, waiting to deliver a deadly strike to him!

Lin Dong took in a deep breath as he stared at that incoming wave. His Mental Energy quickly began to spread out. He knew that hidden in this wave of fists, was Wei Tong’s real killing move!

The wave of fists travelled extremely rapidly. In a blink of an eye, the numerous and powerful attack was about to reach Lin Dong’s body.

“Found it!”

Just as Lin Dong’s body was about to be hit by the barrage, Lin

Dong's eyes suddenly opened wide. Ignoring the wave of fists, he straightened his two fingers which sliced apart the wave of fists like a sharp sword before ferociously thrusting at what was concealed behind the wave of fists: the fist which was meant to be the real killing blow.

“Bang!”

The instant Lin Dong's fingers collided against that fist, the illusionary punches that surrounding him dissipated immediately. Quickly following, a powerful Yuan Power shockwave exploded forth, like a hurricane.

“Humph!”

Wei Tong was evidently shocked for a moment that Lin Dong was able to discover his real killing move. Immediately, with a snort, the bones in his steel-like knuckles began to flow just like a wave as an extremely formidable yet stealthy force gushed out from his bones, before they emerged from his knuckles and viciously slammed into Lin Dong's fingers. It seems like that Wei Tong planned to break Lin Dong's fingers!

Though Wei Tong was cunning, Lin Dong was likewise no fool. Thanks to his Mental Energy's perceptive abilities, he could vividly feel the flow of energy utilized by the former. Immediately, his fingers turned into a claw as Pure Yuangang Energy were like needles as they began to gather at Lin Dong's fingertips before slashing at the back of Wei Tong's hand.

“Tsss!”

Like an extremely sharp sabre, formidable Pure Yuangang Energy directly swept against the back of Wei Tong’s hand. Five trails of blood immediately appeared!

“Bastard!”

When he saw that Lin Dong had successfully avoided his attack, a red hot anger burned in Wei Tong’s heart. However, he was still a battle-hardened individual. Just as the blood trails emerged on his hand, his body suddenly shifted sideways, like a mountain wall, as he used his back to heavily jolt back Lin Dong’s body.

“Bang!”

A deep echo sounded out in the arena as Lin Dong’s body was forcefully blown away. Just as his body separated from Wei Tong, flashes emerged from Lin Dong’s sleeve and transformed into cold lights which flashed towards Wei Tong’s eyes, throat, heart, Dantian and his respective vital organs.

Originally, Wei Tong planned to seize the momentum to deliver a fatal blow to Lin Dong. Yet, he was now caught off guard by Lin Dong’s sudden counterattack. Utilizing both his hands and feet, he was barely able evade Lin Dong’s attack. However, although he managed to avoid this attack, a shallow line of blood still emerged on his face.

After they crossed blows, though it seemed like Wei Tong had the upper hand, he was nonetheless the first one to bleed...

As they stared at Wei Tong's torn robes and the five bloody scratches on his arm, the jeers from the crowds had unknowingly dissipated. At this juncture, anyone could tell that Wei Tong's terrifying attacks had completely failed to overpower the young man...

Furthermore, after that short-ranged intense bout between the two of them, everyone in the crowd knew that this death match was indeed exceptionally exciting!

Under the watchful eyes of the crowd, Lin Dong, who had been shoved away by Wei Tong's back-attack, suddenly stabilized his body in mid air as numerous black shadows began to gather at his feet.

Lin Dong stared coldly at Wei Tong before he took a glance at his own chest. The clothes at his chest area had been completely shredded. Moreover, he could faintly feel an aching sensation at the area. A blow from an advanced Yuan Dan stage elite was indeed extraordinary.

However, after their previous exchange, Lin Dong had also gradually grasped the depths of Wei Tong's strength. It seems like an advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner was not such a difficult enemy after all.

“Huff...”

Lin Dong's feet rested on the Shattered Yuan Shrapnels as he floated in mid-air. As he looked down on the hideous, bloodthirsty Wei Tong, who was intently staring back at him, Lin Dong slowly exhaled. Since he had finally figured out his enemy's true prowess, it was time for him to make his move.

Inside his Niwan Palace, two Destiny Soul Symbols instantly began to vibrate vigorously as streams of powerful Mental Energy steadily gushed forth and began to materialize in front of Lin Dong!

“Such powerful Mental Energy!”

While Lin Dong was maneuvering his Mental Energy, grandmaster Yan, who was seated in the stands, was stunned as he stared disbelieving at that figure. The strength of this Mental Energy had completely exceeded that of a normal second seal Symbol Master. In fact, it could already match up against a third seal Symbol Master!

Lin Dong did not have any time to take notice of the bewildered gazes of the crowd. Exhausting all his power to control his vigorous Mental Energy, he was finally able to condense them into a swiftly revolving, conical-shaped Mental Energy blast.

In the instance when the Mental Energy blast took shape, below, Wei Tong's facial expression started to turn somewhat ugly. He had finally realized that Lin Dong's Mental Energy was now several times stronger compared to two months before.

Furthermore, from that clearly visible cone-shaped Mental Energy blast, even he felt extremely endangered.

Wei Tong lifted his head as he gazed at the cold eyes which were staring right back at him. Meanwhile, his face gradually began to turn increasingly wretched as strong Pure Yuangang Energy was like a lava spouting from a volcano, as it began to erupt from within his body and an exceedingly formidable aura began to spread out.

“Brat, you don’t have the qualifications to fight against me!”

As every last drop of Yuan Power exploded out from his body, the sinister expression on Wei Tong’s face became increasingly intense!

Chapter 127: Fierce Battle

Lin Dong ignored Wei Tong's roar, his attention was entirely focused on controlling the vigorous Mental Energy that gathered before him. Under his urging, the undulation that the 'Piercing Helicity' before him emitted grew increasingly intense.

“Hummm humm!”

The 'Piercing Helicity' was like a hurricane as it rapidly spun, vibrating the air around it until ear-piercing shrieks could be heard.

On the arena floor, Wei Tong also had a serious expression on his face as he stared at Lin Dong, while a vigorous Yuan Power curled around the former's body. Currently, Wei Tong had brought out the full might of the advanced Yuan Dan stage.

Wei Tong was able to sense the strength of Lin Dong's attack, thus he did no longer held anything back as his fists slowly spread out, a vigorous and terrifying Pure Yuangang Energy swiftly condensing at his palms. In the blink of an eye, both of his fists had actually started glowing brightly as an extremely ferocious undulation spread outwards!

“Thousand Splitting Fist!”

Evidently, there were many people atop the viewing platform who knew Wei Tong rather well. When they saw his actions, they gasped out as their gazes turned towards Lin Dong in

astonishment. They clearly did not expect that the latter would actually force Wei Tong to this step.

Lin Zhentian and the rest were likewise furrowing their eyebrows as worry filled their faces. Although they did not fully understand how strong this so-called ‘Thousand Splitting Fist’ was, they were able to sense how terrifying the force that had gathered at Wei Tong’s fists was.

“Though Thousand Splitting Fist is only a level four Martial Art, it is extremely strong and ferocious and is considered as Wei Tong’s exceedingly strong finishing move. With this move, he had once dispatched three Yuan Dan stage practitioners.” To one side, Xuan Su also had serious expression on her face as she explained.

After hearing these words, the already worried Lin Zhentian’s and the rest’s hearts involuntarily skipped a beat as their fists slowly clenched tightly.

“Die brat!”

As alarmed noises rang out from the crowd, Wei Tong’s fists also became increasingly resplendent. The Yuan Power undulation was so ferociously that it was heart palpitating, and as the Yuan Power undulation reached its peak, he laughed sinisterly as his fists heavily slammed together and a chopping motion ruthlessly swung downwards!

“Boom!”

As Wei Tong's fists hacked downwards like an axe, the bright glow immediately transformed into a glowing shadow that was several feet huge and violently shot forward!

Contained within the glowing shadow was an extremely strong Pure Yuangang Energy. The glowing shadow seemed to lengthen and shorten as it flew, it was as if it was a huge mountain-splitting blade that was so terrifying that it sent a chill down one's spine.

“Piercing Helicity!”

Just as the glowing shadow burst out from Wei Tong's hands, Lin Dong's gaze also turned chilly as his finger thrust forward. The ‘Piercing Helicity’ that he had long since finished preparing before him immediately started to rotate frantically. Like a tornado, it rumbled through the air, streaking across space towards the formidable glowing shadow.

From the viewing platform, countless gazes were nervously fixed onto the exceptionally violent attacks from both parties. This was a clash between Mental Energy and Yuan Power!

The speed of both their attacks were shockingly swift, many in the crowd were only able to spot a flash of light before the two ferocious attacks heavily smashed into each other like meteors.

“Bang!”

In that instance, a loud sound rang out in the duel arena. The

unyielding Yuan Power and the Mental Energy blast erupted and spread out in a ring-shaped explosion, even the invisible Mental Energy screen that enveloped the duel arena was jolted until ripples could be seen on its surface.

Countless squinting eyes gazed at the collision in the arena that emitted an exceedingly strong gale and resplendent light.

Within that light, the vigorous Mental Energy and the formidable Pure Yuangang Energy was clearly discernable. Both energies frantically eroded each other as if trying to devour the one another.

In the initial collision, ‘Piercing Helicity’ did not achieve much effect and was instead pushed back little by little under the attack of the formidable Pure Yuangang Energy, continuously retreating towards Lin Dong’s position.

From that scene, it was as if Lin Dong’s Mental Energy did not achieve much.

Atop the viewing platform, Lin Zhentian’s and the rest’s expressions all changed at this sight. Could it be that the Mental Energy that Lin Dong had always been proud of was now unable to withstand Wei Tong?

“Mental Energy was originally inferior to the might of Pure Yuangang Energy. Such a scene is not strange at all, we should still wait to see the outcome.” Grandmaster Yan casually smiled as he said.

When they heard this influential grandmaster-level figure say so, Lin Zhentian and the rest became a little relieved.

As they were speaking, Lin Dong's 'Piercing Helicity' was steadily pushed back until the glowing shadow was just about to smash into his body. However, Lin Dong did not retreat as he once again thrust his finger forward with a serious expression on his face.

And as Lin Dong finger jabbed forward, the originally retreating 'Piercing Helicity' instantly came to a halt, and then, the terrifying power that was hidden within finally exploded out!

“Boom!”

Invisible ripples spread out across the sky, to the crowds astonished gazes, the Mental Energy blast, which seemed tired and feeble just moments before, suddenly erupted into an exceedingly strong counter-attack. In the blink of an eye, it scattered a third of Wei Tong's glowing shadow attack before directly charging towards Wei Tong at an insane speed without skipping a beat.

Upon seeing that not only did his Thousand Splitting Fist not achieve any effect, but was instead countered by Lin Dong, Wei Tong's expression changed as his knees bent and his figure quickly retreated.

“Swish!”

Under Lin Dong's control, the 'Piercing Helicity' straightaway brought a portion of Wei Tong's Pure Yuangang Energy with it as it nimbly streaked across the arena, relentlessly pursuing the rapidly retreating Wei Tong.

“Boom!”

Wei Tong managed to sidestep a few times but found that Lin Dong's Mental Energy continued to chase. Immediately, his expression turned somewhat dark as he actually stopped and icily stared at the Mental Energy light beam that rapidly grew bigger in his eyes while he shouted out.

“Bang!”

As Wei Tong's shout faded, the glowing shadow that had been wounded by the 'Piercing Helicity' abruptly exploded. The resulting force directly dispersing Lin Dong's 'Piercing Helicity'.

“You're ignorant indeed if you were thinking of using my attack to strike back at me.” A sneer revealed itself on Wei Tong's face as he mocked while gazing at the 'Piercing Helicity' which had been dispersed by the explosion.

“Swish swish!”

However, before his mocking voice could fade away, from within the 'Piercing Helicity' which had been exploded in mid-air, ten needle-like shapes suddenly shot forth and swiftly darted towards

Wei Tong's position below.

“Materialized Spirit Needle?!”

This sudden and unexpected attack caused the sneer on Wei Tong's face to turn rigid. Only when the needle-like objects were about to reach his body did he realise that these things were actually the ‘Materialized Spirit Needles’ that Gu Ying was known for. However, these ‘Materialized Spirit Needles’ were far outclassed Gu Ying's in both power and number!

“I've fallen into his trap!”

At this time, Wei Tong was already unable to take any defensive measures. Thoughts rapidly spun in his head, only now did he understand that the originally powerful looking ‘Piercing Helicity’ was actually not Lin Dong's killing move. The true killing move were these ‘Materialized Spirit Needles’ concealed within the ‘Piercing Helicity’!

“Excellent!”

Atop the viewing platform, grandmaster Yan's eyes shined as he involuntarily cried out. Others were perhaps unable to notice it but he knew that to perfectly hide the ‘Materialized Spirit Needles’ within ‘Piercing Helicity’ needed various kinds of control, such that, this could already be considered an original creation of ‘Piercing Helicity’. Plus, all of this was done by a youth who was not even twenty years old.

“Chi chi!”

The ‘Materialised Spirit Needle’ attack was extremely sudden, even battle hardened Wei Tong was unable to expect that his explosion had disturbed the hornet’s nest. Immediately, he could only maneuver some Yuan Power to cover his body as he felt the dozen or so ‘Materialised Spirit Needles’ piercing his body.

This hastily constructed defense did not achieve much, therefore, when the ‘Materialised Spirit Needles’ entered his body, Wei Tong could feel an intense pincushion-like pain spread out from his head. This was a sign that he had been attacked by Mental Energy.

“Arggh!”

In the arena, Wei Tong hugged his head as he shrieked while his figure staggered backwards. Even though Mental Energy attacks were not as direct as Yuan Power, they were able to stealthily destroy your mind, and once a person’s mind had been scattered, he would become akin to a walking corpse.

This was an outcome more terrifying than death itself.

In mid-air, Lin Dong indifferently gazed at the screaming Wei Tong, refusing to let up. Although Lin Dong had caught the latter off guard this time, the ‘Materialised Spirit Needle’ was after all only an ordinary Secret Spirit Skill. Thus, it was far from enough to thoroughly destroy an advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner like Wei Tong!

Faced with such a foe, Lin Dong carried the intent to kill. If this foe did not die, the Blood Cloth Sect would constantly cause trouble for the Lin Family, and so, this enemy must be killed!

When his thoughts reached this point, a cold light flashed across Lin Dong's eyes. His body swept down as he quickly charged at Wei Tong, and as he rushed forward, his hands rapidly formed a series of seals as a vigorous Pure Yuangang Energy gathered at Lin Dong's palm at a shocking speed. Faintly, an extremely powerful undulation spread outwards.

“You little brat, I'll murder you!”

Lin Dong's movements were sensed by Wei Tong, as an unyielding person, he no longer paid attention to the intense pain in his head as he snarled. All the Yuan Power in his body was mobilized as they gathered at his right leg. In an instant, he weirdly darted forward like a praying mantis as a mighty kick slammed towards Lin Dong's head.

In the face of Wei Tong's all out counter-attack, Lin Dong did not stop his body as the seals of the Wonder Gate Seal quickly formed. When the third layer was complete, the speed became a little sluggish before the seals continued to change in succession. He was actually going to utilise the fourth layer of Wonder Gate Seal to in this final clash against Wei Tong!

“Hua hua!”

As Lin Dong's seals changed, a vigorous Yuan Power gathered at

the center of his palm until it transformed into a faintly golden palm print which exuded a heart palpitating undulation.

Just as this faintly golden palm print was formed, anger was revealed on Lin Dong's face as his palm heavily thrust towards Wei Tong's right leg!

“Boom!”

As they gazed at the final clash of the two, many people on the viewing platform suddenly stood up. They understood that this was the move that would determine the victor!

Yet, what they did not know was who exactly this final victor would be?!

Chapter 128: Kill!

A strong Yuan Power erupted from the arena like a tide. At the same moment, inch-wide cracks emerged on the solid ground of the arena as broken fragments of rocks catapulted outwards before finally smashing into the surrounding Mental Energy screen, causing layer after layer of ripples to form on its surface.

As they gazed upon the vicious clash within the arena, many of the audience members on the viewing platform stood up as they cast their sights towards the area where the Yuan Power flowed.

At the same time, Lin Zhentian, Xuan Su and the rest also became slightly tense. Even though they knew that Lin Dong was exceedingly talented, he had yet to grow to his full potential. Right now, since he was facing against Wei Tong, who was at a higher cultivation stage than him, he was still in a somewhat dangerous predicament.

The Blood Wolf Gang sect leader, Yue Shan, sat on his high horse, his eyes slightly narrowing as he stared at the arena. Though he seemed calm, his usually reclined body was now slightly leaning forward. The potential that Lin Dong had displayed had strongly affected him. Simultaneously, a murderous intent also surfaced in his heart. He vividly remembered that just one month ago, at the Celestial Dan Pool, Lin Dong's strength had not reached such terrifying levels. That was why he ordered Wei Tong to kill Lin Dong after he heard about the death match between them.

To Wei Tong, even though Lin Dong was indeed skilled, he could

not possibly match up against Wei Tong, who was at the advanced Yuan Dan stage. After all, the latter was no half-baked rookie like Jiang Li.

However, when Lin Dong and Wei Tong's entered into their intense duel, this thought within Yue Shan's heart gradually began to dissipate. This was due to the fact that Lin Dong did not suffer a terrible defeat as expected. Instead, thanks to his wits and powerful Mental Energy, he managed to resolve several tricky situations and even drove Wei Tong to such a sorry state.

At such a young age, Lin Dong was already able to force Wei Tong, who had massacred countless individuals, to this state. In the future, how powerful would Lin Dong be?

Yue Shan was able to become the leader of one of the top three factions in Yan City. Thus, he was definitely not an ordinary individual. Even though he looked like a brute, he was a cunning and vengeful individual, who would always take revenge against those who wronged him. Right now, since his relationship with Lin Dong was strained, Yue Shan refused to believe that the latter will so easily forgive him. Therefore, since he could not repair this relationship, he resolved to rid himself of this thorn as soon as possible.

With regards to this thorny problem, it was best to borrow Wei Tong's hand to get rid of it. This was the ideal plan was formulated in Yue Shan's heart.

However, it seems like his plan will not pan out so easily.

“Buzz!”

Under the countless watchful gazes of the crowd, a figure suddenly flew out from the epicenter. After somersaulting a few times in mid-air, he landed on the ground. A sharp dagger-like object was in his palm as he aggressively stabbed it into the ground, causing a trail of sparks as a ‘chi-chi’ ear-piercing sound echoed out.

This figure was pushed back a dozen meters, leaving a black trail on the ground. When the figure finally came to a halt, the crowd were finally able to discern his appearance. Immediately, a chorus exploded from the stands.

“Lin Dong!”

Lin Zhentian, Xuan Su and the rest stared at the ragged figure that had been forcefully ejected out as their facial expressions changed slightly. Based on the figure’s appearance, could it be that Lin Dong had not come out on top from their previous exchange?

Under the bewildered gazes of the crowd, Lin Dong slowly stood up. His palm tightly wrapped around the Shattered Yuan Shrapnel, which had now turned a little red from the friction. Meanwhile, his eyes were tightly peeled on the spot where the dust was gradually dissipating.

A gentle breeze swept across the arena as it blew away all the dust in the air. Soon after, another figure surfaced under the watchful

gazes of the crowd.

The figure was half-kneeling on the floor, his clothes were torn and tattered. Wounds could be seen all over his body; especially at his right leg, where fresh blood continuously gushed out, dyeing the ground red.

“Wei Tong?!”

When they saw the figure that was even more ragged than Lin Dong, the surrounding crowd instantly sucked in a breath of cold air. At first, many of them had thought that Lin Dong had lost out in that previous exchange, however, based on their respective appearances now, it seems like the one who lost out was actually Wei Tong!

From the stands, Yue Shan suddenly stood up. As he stared at the arena, his expression was especially terrifying. It seemed like he had never expected that Wei Tong would be beaten to such an extent by Lin Dong.

“That bastard...”

Yue Shan’s face gently twitched as a voice filled with anger spilled out from his mouth. However, no one knew who he was referring to...

In contrast to Yue Shan’s terrifying expression, Lin Zhentian and the rest heavily heaved a sigh of relief as they used their palms to

wipe off the cold sweat on their brows. You could tell that they were all intensely nervous.

“Buzz buzz!”

Under the countless amazed gazes of the crowd, the hideous-looking Wei Tong spit out a mouthful of fresh blood. Contained in his eyes were a look of disbelief as well. He had never expected that Lin Dong would be able to use his initial Yuan Dan stage abilities to directly confront and defeat him!

“That little brat!”

The sharp pain that emitted from his right leg led Wei Tong to understand that the bones in his leg were probably shattered. Immediately, he gritted his teeth as he cursed aloud. Then, lifting his head, he stared maliciously at Lin Dong, who was standing nearby, before he swore to himself that he would make Lin Dong and his entire Lin Family pay the same price in blood!

However, while he gnashed his teeth and vented the grudge in his heart, Lin Dong, who was standing nearby, stared at him calmly. Then, clutching on to the fiery-red Shattered Yuan Shrapnel, he slowly approached Wei Tong.

Lin Dong’s footsteps quickened, until he eventually transformed into a shadow as he dashed towards Wei Tong, who was now severely injured. As Lin Dong headed towards Wei Tong, the latter could feel a killing intent from the former that sent a chill through his body.

As Wei Tong gazed at Lin Dong, who was dashing towards him with a cold murderous look, Wei Tong's limbs turned icy as the poisonous rage in his eyes was finally replaced by panic. Based on his current condition, if Lin Dong wanted to kill him, it would not be impossible.

“I admit defeat!”

At this critical juncture, Wei Tong's facial expression changed before he suddenly shouted out. Although this admission was extremely embarrassing, as long as he kept his life, anything was still possible!

Furthermore, even though this was a death match, the decision to kill the loser still rests with one's opponent. Therefore, right now, Wei Tong hoped that through his admission, he would be able to keep his life!

However, though his idea was a good one, it did not achieve its intended purpose. In response to this admission of defeat, Lin Dong's footsteps only slowed for a split moment before he proceeded forth at an even swifter pace, while his killing intent did not decrease but rather increased!

With regards to Wei Tong, Lin Dong had long planned to kill the former. After all, he believed that if the situation was reversed, Wei Tong would not hesitate to kill him. Therefore, if Lin Dong decided to be merciful now, he would be a true fool.

Thus, Wei Tong's admission did not dissipate the killing intent in Lin Dong's heart. In a flash, his figure had reached the former.

Lin Dong's actions caused a commotion in the crowd, several people in the stands were shocked. Evidently, many of them did not expect that such a youthful-looking young man, would actually be so decisive and unwavering.

“Brat, you dare!”

Yue Shan was also stunned by Lin Dong's actions, his palm immediately slammed on a rock stool nearby as he shouted out.

The Blood Cloth Sect was considered an underling of the Blood Wolf Gang. If Lin Dong killed Wei Tong, the Blood Cloth Sect would likely disband. At that time, his Blood Wolf Gang would have lost a substantial force. This was a scenario that Yue Shan did not want to see.

Of course, Yue Shan understood that just his words alone were not enough to dispel Lin Dong's intent to kill. Therefore, after he shouted out, he immediately tried to jump into the arena to rescue Wei Tong.

However, before he could leap in, a figure appeared in front of him. With a smile on his face, Xia Wanjin said: “Sect Leader Yue Shan, in a deathmatch, the outcome is determined by their respective fates. These are the rules, one must not break them.”

“Xia Wanjin, you!”

When he saw that Xia Wanjin had personally stepped in to stop him, Yue Shan was enraged. However, he did not dare to oppose the former openly, thus his body now stood rooted to the ground.

Just as Xia Wanjin intervened to halt Yue Shan, Lin Dong had also swiftly appeared in front of Wei Tong.

“Little brat, it’s not so easy to kill me!”

As he sensed that aura of death that was heading towards him, Wei Tong’s face suddenly turned increasingly sinister. His palm slammed on the ground as his figure juttled backwards and his face suddenly became exceedingly red, such that drops of blood began to emerge from his pores.

When he saw Wei Tong’s actions, Lin Dong’s eyes slightly narrowed. He could sense that the former’s originally wrecked body was now being reinvigorated. It seems like the former must be utilizing something similar to the ‘Blood Transformation Art’ Jiang Li had used before.

Lin Dong was always rather vigilant towards these type of skills that could drastically raise one’s power. Therefore, he did not intend to give Wei Tong the opportunity to do so. Immediately, his feet slammed against the ground. With a wave of his arm, the Shattered Yuan Shrapnel in his palm was wrapped by a vigorous Pure Yuangang Energy before it turned into a blinding flash and pierced through the air, chasing after Wei Tong at a terrifying

speed!

That sharp piercing sound caused Wei Tong to panic. Immediately, he condensed all the Yuan Power left in his body in front of him to form a layer of light.

Yet, just as this defensive barrier was raised, the blinding light emerged and heavily collided into his Yuan Power barrier.

“Buzz!”

Upon collision, the Shattered Yuan Shrapnel, which was wrapped with Pure Yuangang Energy, started to rotate as an extremely high speed. Just like a drill, it was frantically drilling against the Yuan Power barrier.

“Crack!”

Thanks to that high speed rotation, cracks began to emerge on the Yuan Power barrier. Immediately, without giving the panicked Wei Tong any time to reinforce his defenses, the Shattered Yuan Shrapnel transformed into a blinding flash, under the astonished gazes of the crowd, it forcefully penetrated the Yuan Power barrier and viciously pierced his throat before it exited, bringing with it a trail of blood...

The entire duel arena lapsed into silence at this moment, one by one, the stupefied gazes of the crowd concentrated on the blood that spurted out from Wei Tong's throat. Then, they turned to

look at the calm young man before Wei Tong as many of them slowly exhaled. It was as if they wanted to exhale the shock in their hearts.

This fight was simply spectacular and the final outcome completely took many by surprise. Nobody had expected that the fairly notorious Wei Tong would actually be killed by a young man who was barely twenty years old...

Killing an advanced Yuan Dan practitioner at such a young age. Amongst the younger generation members in Yan City, there was probably no one else who could accomplish such a feat.

After this battle, the Lin Family and Lin Dong's reputation would definitely soar in Yan City!

Chapter 129: End of the Show

Wei Tong was dead.

As they gazed at the body that slowly fell to the ground, everyone understood that the leader of the Blood Cloth Sect had indeed met his end in this duel arena. Furthermore, the one he had fallen to was a young man who was not even twenty years of age.

In the arena, Lin Dong's taut nerves finally relaxed. A sweetness rose up his throat but was forcefully swallowed by Lin Dong.

The might of the advanced Yuan Dan stage had somewhat exceeded Lin Dong's expectations. Armed with his initial Yuan Dan stage strength and the Mental Energy that could match up with a third seal Symbol Master, Lin Dong had originally thought that it would not be too difficult to dispatch Wei Tong. Yet, this duel still ended up a little thrilling.

“If the advanced Yuan Dan stage is already such a pain to take care of, then how problematic would a perfect Yuan Dan Stage expert be?”

Lin Dong pursed his lips, his gaze suddenly shifting towards the stands. There, Yue Shan's expression was ugly to the max, his fists were tightly clenched, clearly showing the rage and murderous intent inside his heart. He had also never expected that Lin Dong would so ruthlessly and cleanly deal the killing blow.

“Good, good!”

Atop the viewing platform, Yue Shan's eyes were very dark as he somewhat venomously stared at Lin Dong while spitting out these two words, his voice dripping with killing intent. Yue Shan then waved his sleeve and turned away, anyone could tell that the sect leader of the Blood Wolf Gang and also this rather famous expert in Yan City was extremely resentful towards the fact that Lin Dong had killed Wei Tong.

And when a figure of this calibre was resentful, the situation would very likely develop to become a blood fest.

At these thoughts, some of the factions atop the viewing platforms could not help but cast some sympathetic gazes towards Lin Dong. This time, he had thoroughly offended the Blood Wolf Gang.

Yet, as he faced these gazes, Lin Dong retained his calm expression. Yue Shan had long ago treated Lin Dong as an eyesore, thus such actions would not be strange. As for Wei Tong, he was someone Lin Dong certainly had to kill because he understood in his heart that if he did not finish off Wei Tong today, that savage brute would definitely make sure to retaliate with all his might. Stupidly asking for trouble was one of the things Lin Dong would not do. Even if the price was offending Yue Shan and the Blood Wolf gang, it still had to be done!

While Yue Shan turned around, still giving out a murderous aura, the judge also once again appeared in the arena. He inspected Wei Tong's wounds for a moment before turning his somewhat shocked gaze towards Lin Dong as he secretly said in his heart:

“What a ruthless kid.”

Lin Dong’s final strike had directly caused a fist-sized hole through Wei Tong’s throat. No one would be able to save Wei Tong from such a fatal wound.

After confirming that Wei Tong was dead, the judge announced in a low voice: “For this duel, Lin Dong from the Lin Family has emerged victorious!”

.....

This battle in the duel arena had undoubtedly become one of the most popular topics in Yan City. This kind of surprising outcome had also caused the Lin Family and Lin Dong’s reputation to spread within Yan City. Many people started to recognize this Family which hailed from Qingyang Town.

Not long after the deathmatch was over, as many had expected, the Blood Cloth Sect became rather chaotic due to internal strife. Although the Blood Wolf Gang tried to suppress this strife, the Blood Cloth Sect still fell apart due to the anxiousness of their members. Not long later, the once rather well-known Blood Cloth Sect dissipated and their territories were excitedly divided up among the other factions.

The Blood Wolf gang was furious with this outcome, yet they could do nothing about it but rely on the influence as one of the top three factions to forcefully retake some territories. Yet, in the end, they were still unable to remedy the Blood Cloth Sect’s

disbanding.

Compared to the split up and scattered Blood Cloth Sect, the Lin Family instead made use of this situation. Currently, they had not only borrowed Lin Dong's hard earned reputation to stabilize themselves in Yan City, but also build some relations with one of the top factions, the Thousand Gold Association, and a top tier expert like grandmaster Yan. Over this period of time, the wind blowed extremely in their favor.

Yet, though a favorable wind blew for them, Lin Zhentian and the rest did not lose their rationality due to the excitement but instead very quickly became clear-headed again. They tried to maintain a low profile as much as possible, Yan City was not like Qingyang Town, there were many more factions here and without enough strength, the favorable wind from this meteoric reputation would perhaps directly overturn them instead.

As a whole, though the current Lin Family's strength was considered enough to establish themselves in Yan City, they were after all a new comer and being careful plus keeping a low-profile would definitely be good for them. Especially since they had offended a bigger faction like the Blood Wolf Gang after resolving the problem of the Blood Cloth Sect...

Of course, though they were low-key, Lin Zhentian and the rest also secretly recruited quite a number of experts. The manpower and resources in Yan City far exceeded that of Qingyang Town. So long as one had enough money, even a Yuan Dan stage expert could be bought to your service.

With regards to money, the Lin Family was fairly confident in themselves. After all, with the constant contributions from the Yang Yuan stone mining lode, the Lin Family managed to recruit almost ten Heavenly Yuan stage experts in a mere half a month. As for those with Earthly Yuan strength, dozens were recruited.

This level of power was not outdone by the Blood Cloth Sect from before, and from certain angles, it could be considered even greater. After all, the Lin Family still had Lin Dong who was able to take the head of Wei Tong!

It was also during this short half a month that an earth-shattering change occurred to the Lin Family's strength. Although this kind of change was a huge financial burden for them, the situation from before had enlightened the Lin Family that without enough strength, you would only end up toiling for others.

If the Lin Family possessed this level of strength before, how would Wei Tong have dared to be so unbridled?

If Lin Dong had not used a delaying tactic that day, how could the Lin Family have survived till today? After learning from these past mistakes, Lin Zhentian and the rest now understood that strength was the most important!

...

A manor stood within a district in the northern part of Yan City. There were quite a few guards who stood rooted like stakes at the entrance of the manor. This was the Lin Family's new residence in

Yan City. Since they had already planned to move their core operations to Yan City, a place like this was naturally a necessity. Therefore, after spending quite a huge sum, the name of this manor had been changed to Lin.

There was a small secluded courtyard located deep in the manor. This was Lin Dong's personal lodging, his position in the Lin Family had become increasingly important such that it was now able to match up to Lin Zhentian's. Thus no one would complain if Lin Dong received this level of treatment, after all, if it was not for Lin Dong, their Lin Family would perhaps continued to be suppressed by the tiny Lei and Xie Families.

In the grassy courtyard, Lin Dong sat on a stone block with both his eyes tightly shut. Around him, the Yuan Power of heaven and earth heaved and surged before finally transforming into threads of Yuan Power that swiftly poured into his body.

After over half a month of secret training, the twenty two channels of the 'Tri Sun Art' had been completely unblocked by Lin Dong. The power of this art was not weak when he used it and was several times stronger than the 'Qingyuan Art' of the past.

Not long ago, Lin Dong had also given this 'Tri Sun Art' to Lin Zhentian. After all, the Lin Family's 'Qingyuan Art' was definitely too shameful, given their current status, it was natural for them to swap it out. Of course, the 'Tri Sun Art' that Lin Dong handed over could only open fifteen channels, he did not mention about the version he had as it was related to the mysterious Stone Talisman. Given his cautiousness, ever since he had been warned by the small marten, he had kept this secret in his heart, not daring to leak any

information.

After replacing the Lin Family's main Secret Art with the 'Tri Sun Art', Lin Dong also secretly gave a 'Yin Yang Pearl' to his father, Lin Xiao. The current Lin Xiao was already at the Heavenly Yuan late stage and his talent was also far superior to Lin Ken and Lin Mang. Lin Xiao was definitely the one who had the highest chance of advancing to the Yuan Dan stage, thus, this 'Yin Yang Pearl' would achieve the greatest effect if it was used by Lin Xiao.

“Phew...”

Lin Dong's cultivation had lasted for a full two hours before his closely shut eyes slowly opened as a ball of white Qi was spit out from his mouth. Soon after, he extended both his arms as light seemed to twinkle at the center of his palms. A split moment later, these lights actually transformed into two fist-sized Yuan Power balls of light. A faint golden glow could be seen within these balls of light.

The surface of the balls of light seemed to flicker as a rather intimidating Yuan Power undulation spread out from within.

These balls of lights were the 'Tri Sun balls' from the 'Tri Sun Art'. After studying for half a month, Lin Dong had successfully condensed two 'Tri Sun balls' inside his Dantian. Although he had never tested its full power before, Lin Dong could gauge the killing power of these things. If he had been able to condense them before his clash with Wei Tong, it was likely that Lin Dong would have won more easily.

Lin Dong stared at the two 'Tri Sun balls', only when he sensed the frantic undulations within them did he finally nod his head in satisfaction. With a flick of his hand, they were returned to his Dantian.

Over this half a month period, Lin Dong did not slow his cultivation because he had defeated Wei Tong. The matter this time had thoroughly offended the Blood Wolf Gang, in the light of Yue Shan's character, he would not so easily let this matter rest. Even though the Thousand Gold Association currently restrained him, if he found a chance, he would definitely make his move without the slightest hesitation. Under this pressure, Lin Dong naturally could not take it easy in his cultivation.

He was able to kill the advanced Yuan Dan stage Wei Tong, yet he was not certain of being able to prevail over the perfect Yuan Dan stage Yue Shan. Though there was only one word of difference between the cultivation stages of these two individuals, there was a huge gap between their strengths. This point was further emphasized by the fact that there were less than ten perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners even in the whole Yan City.

Lin Dong massaged his temple and could only temporarily worry about this matter in his heart as he whistled.

Before the whistle could fade, a red shadow swiftly burst into the courtyard. In the blink of an eye, it dashed to Lin Dong's side, the aura that it brought with it caused even Lin Dong to involuntarily raise an eyebrow.

This red shadow was naturally Little Flame, who had been brought over from Qingyang Town by Lin Zhentian and the rest. After being apart for a few months, though Little Flame's body had not grown much, the fur on its body had grown increasingly scarlet red, as if it was about to condense into a layer of crystal armor, an extremely exotic sight.

Lin Zhentian and the rest did not know why this changed had occurred to Little Flame, however, they knew that a common Fire Python Tiger would not transform in such a way...

Furthermore, what caused them to be truly shocked was that the current Little Flame had entered into a deep sleep one month after Lin Dong had left. And after it awoke from its sleep, Lin Zhentian and the rest had found that Little Flame's strength had once again skyrocketed. They predicted that Little Flame would even dare to challenge an initial Yuan Dan stage practitioner now.

Lin Zhentian and the rest were at a loss with regards to Little Flame's change, however, Lin Dong was able to guess that this was likely related to the Demonic Crystal Little Flame had swallowed in the cavern within the mining lode that day...

“Young master Lin Dong, grandmaster Yan sent someone to tell us that you have been invited over to his place.”

Just as Lin Dong was rubbing Little Flame's red fur with a smile on his face, a servant girl suddenly appeared in the vicinity of the courtyard and respectfully reported.

“Oh?”

Lin Dong was stunned upon hearing these words. This was the first time he had received an invitation from grandmaster Yan. Since he had always deeply respected the latter, he immediately nodded his head.

Chapter 130: Tower Battle

“Is this grandmaster Yan’s residence...”

Lin Dong stood outside a seemingly ordinary courtyard as he stared in surprise at the compound which did not look the least bit luxurious. For a time, he was somewhat unable to accept the fact that this was the place where the famed grandmaster Yan lived.

“Growl!”

Beside Lin Dong, Little Flame suddenly growled deeply. Lin Dong had decided to bring it along for this trip. Even though its large size drew much attention towards them, it was still fairly tolerable. After all, there were several elite practitioners who could control Demonic Beasts in Yan City too. Therefore, most people only turned to look at Lin Dong’s majestic Fire Python Tiger with somewhat astonished gazes but did not crowd around him as he had anticipated.

Lin Dong patted Little Flame’s head as he instructed it to keep quiet. Then, he walked nearer to the courtyard and looked at the two guards, who were staring vigilantly at him, before he cupped his hands and said: “May I request for you to notify grandmaster Yan that Lin Dong requests to meet him!”

When they heard Lin Dong’s name, the two guards stared at him in astonishment. Evidently, they had heard of his name, which was now being spread rapidly throughout Yan City. Promptly, one of them nodded his head before he withdrawing into the manor. A

while later, he finally resurfaced and politely said: “Grandmaster Yan welcomes you. Please follow me.”

Lin Dong nodded his head. Together with Little Flame, they walked into the courtyard. Upon entering the premises, Lin Dong realized that the interior was not only extremely spacious, but was also filled with greenery, creating an overall atmosphere of tranquility and serenity.

Furthermore, there were already several people present inside this spacious courtyard. What shocked Lin Dong the most, was that these people were all Symbol Masters!

“What exactly is this place?”

While Lin Dong was still perplexed, the guard leading the way suddenly stopped in front of a bamboo house before politely signalling for Lin Dong to enter.

“Please!”

As he recalled his thoughts, Lin Dong gratefully nodded at the guard before gently pushing open the door and entering the bamboo house. It was completely silent inside the bamboo house and an elderly man dressed in ash-colored robes had his eyes closed while seated within, as if he was meditating.

When Lin Dong walked into the bamboo house, he immediately felt fine threads of Mental Energy spread around every corner of

the house like a spider web. He knew that this was grandmaster Yan's Mental Energy. Therefore, even though the latter's eyes were shut, Lin Dong's every move was clearly imprinted into the latter's mind.

“Grandmaster!”

Lin Dong had always fairly respected this elderly man who had introduced him to the world of Mental Energy. Thus, Lin Dong immediately bowed respectfully in greeting.

“Haha, you have finally arrived. Take a seat...”

Grandmaster Yan gently smiled as his tightly shut eyes slowly opened. In his eyes, one could detect no trace of old age, but rather his eyes seemed particularly enigmatic and filled with wisdom.

Lin Dong respectfully nodded his head before seating himself on the ground. Beside him, Little Flame also quietly laid down on its stomach. Its keen senses told it that this fragile-looking old man before it was actually extremely powerful.

“Such an intelligent Demonic Beast. It should be a Fire Python Tiger, yet, the intellect that it displays far exceeds that of a Fire Python Tiger.” Grandmaster Yan somewhat intriguingly stared at Little Flame as he discovered some unique points about the latter.

“Yes.” Lin Dong smiled as he nodded his head before continuing to speak: “Could I inquire why grandmaster has summoned this

young one. Are there any instructions for me?”

“Haha, instructions are out of question.” Grandmaster Yan chuckled as he turned to look at Lin Dong. With a gentle smile on his face, he asked: “Right now, you should be a second seal Symbol Master right?”

“Yes.” Lin Dong hesitated for a moment before he nodded his head again. He knew that he would not be able to hide anything from this exceptionally perceptive old man.

“Furthermore, your Mental Energy is much stronger than any Symbol Master of the same level. If I am not mistaken, the Destiny Symbol that you have condensed should be a Destiny Soul Symbol.”

Grandmaster Yan’s subsequent words caused Lin Dong’s facial expression to change. Ever since he discovered the rarity of his Destiny Soul Symbol, he had done his best to keep it a secret. He never expected that the former had managed to discover this too.

“Your affinity with Mental Energy is the strongest I have seen all these years.” Grandmaster Yan chuckled, not lingering too much on the previous topic.

“It is all thanks to grandmaster’s initial guidance.” Lin Dong politely said.

“I only imparted to you the first three layers of ‘Spiritual

Movement Chapter'. It is no profound Mental Energy cultivation technique. Your accomplishments today all stem from your own effort. They have nothing to do with me.” Grandmaster Yan smiled as he replied.

“However, the current you is only at the initial stage of Mental Energy cultivation.”

“Please educate me grandmaster.” Lin Dong solemnly replied.

“Haha, the truth is I am no better than you.”

“Grandmaster, you are too humble. You are a fourth seal Symbol Master, the strongest Symbol Master in the entire Yan City!” Lin Dong hurriedly replied.

“Sigh, fourth seal... even if it's fifth seal, it's still just the beginning...” Grandmaster Yan softly sighed before he said: “Do you know what comes after the fifth seal Symbol Master?”

“I do not know.” Lin Dong honestly shook his head. That stage was still rather distant for him.

“After the fifth seal Symbol Master, one becomes a Soul Symbol Master. When one reaches that stage, one's Destiny Symbol would already possess spiritual abilities. An elite practitioner at that stage can move mountains and flip oceans in a flick of his mind. When dueling with others, he can easily lift even an entire mountain.”

Lin Dong's mouth was ajar. Moving an entire mountain with a thought. How powerful would that be. At that stage, if anyone dared to obstruct you, one could casually squash him with an entire mountain, such that even the remains of the person would not be found. With that kind of power, even destroying an entire city would be possible with just a gesture right?

“That power is not something that can be attained by any ordinary person. Only a few individuals have managed to reach that stage. Even in the entire Great Yan Empire, Soul Symbol Masters are a legendary and extremely rare existence.”

“After Soul Symbol Masters, there are even further stages. However, with regards to those stages, even for me, I only dare to admire them and I do not ever hope to reach those stages.”

As he gazed at grandmaster Yan, who had an expression of reverence on his face, Lin Dong silently nodded his head. However, inside his heart, a fire was lit up. He yearned for such power...

“Haha, we have digressed...” While Lin Dong was submerged in thoughts of such power, grandmaster Yan smiled as he shook his head: “Have you heard of the Symbol Master Guild?”

“Nope.” Lin Dong was taken aback before he once again shook his head.

“This is a type of faction where Symbol Masters gather. Every somewhat large city will have its own Symbol Master Guild and Yan City is no exception. I am the head of Yan City's Symbol

Master Guild. The common people only know of the three top factions in Yan City. However, the Symbol Master Guild's might does not lose out to them. It is just that our Symbol Master Guild is not as strictly regulated, comparatively speaking, we are more easy going. Nonetheless, this does not hinder our influence." Grandmaster Yan explained.

Lin Dong was a little stunned. Evidently, this was the first time he had heard that there was another faction in Yan City that could match up against the likes of the Thousand Gold Association. Quickly, he recalled all the Symbol Masters that he saw in the courtyard and he finally understood why they were there.

"Since you have never heard of Symbol Master Guild, I guess you do not know about Symbol Master Tower as well?"

Lin Dong awkwardly nodded his head. Right now, he felt somewhat like a frog in a well.

"The Symbol Master Tower is a mysterious tower forged by the Mental Energy of numerous Symbol Masters in the past. This tower has the magical ability to purify and cleanse one's Mental Energy. We have one of these towers In our Yan City Symbol Master Guild too. It is the fruits of the collective effort of all Yan City's Symbol Masters in the past hundred years!"

"This is one of our Yan City's proudest accomplishments. After all, even amongst the thousands of large cities in the Great Yan Empire, there are less than a tenth that possess their own Symbol Master Towers."

As he gazed at the prideful look on grandmaster Yan's face, Lin Dong nodded his head. An item that took nearly a hundred years of hard work by numerous generations indicated that this was no ordinary thing.

“However...”

The pride of grandmaster Yan's face did not last for long before it turned into a slightly pained look. With a sigh, he said: “The Symbol Master Tower is extremely beneficial to Symbol Masters in the city. Therefore, it is treated as a holy ground for most Symbol Masters. The Symbol Master Guilds in other cities will utilize every means possible to obtain a Symbol Master Tower. Yet, how can one obtain such a thing so easily?”

Lin Dong blinked a few times. He knew that the main topic was coming...

“Some cities have Symbol Master Towers, while others do not. This will naturally stir up resentment and lead to some trouble. For example, some elites practitioners may forcefully take a Symbol Master Tower... Fortunately, in recent years, this was banned by the Imperial Courts. However, at the same time, an unwritten rule appeared, that is the Tower Battle!”

“Tower Battle!”

“It refers to a battle between Symbol Masters from different cities. More accurately, it refers to a battle between younger

generation Symbol Masters. And the prize for the victor is the Symbol Master Tower.” Grandmaster Yan sighed.

“What grandmaster means is that other cities’ Symbol Master Guilds are able to issue a challenge against Yan City’s Symbol Master Guild. And if they win, they will be able to take away the Symbol Master Tower?” Lin Dong’s lifted his eyebrow as he asked.

“However, if one wants to claim the Symbol Master Tower, they must obtain three consecutive victories. Furthermore, there can only be one challenge per year.”

“That sounds fine. So it will take three years for a victory.” Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong heaved a sigh of relief as he smiled.

“Yan City’s Symbol Master Guild has already lost twice in a row. This year is the last time.” Grandmaster Yan did not smile back. Instead he shook his head while wearing a pained expression.

Lin Dong’s smile turned stiff. Two losses already...the Yan City Symbol Master Guild seemed pretty weak.

“Which city does the other party hail from?” Lin Dong somewhat curiously asked. Which city could be powerful enough to defeat Yan City’s Symbol Master Guild twice in a row.

“Sky Fire City.”

After hearing this name, Lin Dong finally understood why. If one

were to rank the largest cities in the Tiandu Province, then Tiandu City would be number one, Yan City number three and the number two position would belong to Sky Fire City.

“The Tower Battle this time is extremely crucial to our Yan City Symbol Master Guild. If we lose once more, the Symbol Master Tower will be relocated to Sky Fire City.” Grandmaster Yan smiled bitterly as he stared at Lin Dong.

“So grandmaster Yan’s intention is?” Lin Dong forced a smile as he very carefully asked.

Grandmaster Yan stared straight at Lin Dong before slowly speaking: “For this Tower Battle, I would like your assistance!”

Chapter 131: Zi Yue

“As expected...”

After hearing these words, Lin Dong laughed bitterly in his heart. He did not expect that he would be in such great demand, just a while ago, he was recruited by the Thousand Gold Association to aid in the Celestial Dan Pool battle with the Blood Wolf Gang. Now, he was once again invited by grandmaster Yan to participate in the Tower Battle.

In the previous Celestial Dan Pool affair, he had already offended the Blood Wolf Gang. The Tower Battle this time was a clash between the Symbol Master Guilds of two cities, this practically represented all the Symbol Masters in both cities. Compared to the Celestial Dan Pool fight, this Tower Battle was clearly going to be a lot more thorny.

“Grandmaster, this young one has only cultivated in Mental Energy for a short period, it is somewhat inappropriate for me to participate in such an important matter right?”

Lin Dong considered his words as he carefully spoke. If it was any normal person asking, he would straightaway reject, however, grandmaster Yan was after all someone he was indebted to. Thus, it was not easy for him to reject.

“Though the amount of time you’ve spent cultivating Mental Energy is not considered long, your ability has surpassed most of the young Symbol Masters in Yan City. As the saying goes, the one

who has reached the next stage should be the teacher, the length of cultivation is merely secondary.” Grandmaster Yan slightly smiled as he said.

Lin Dong felt a somewhat bitter feeling in his mouth, looks like grandmaster Yan was determined to get Lin Dong to participate.

“Haha, are you worried about the Blood Wolf Gang?” Upon seeing Lin Dong’s silence, grandmaster Yan also understood that this young one would not act without an incentive as he asked.

Lin Dong hesitated for a moment before gently nodding his head. After killing Wei Tong this time, he had completely offended the Blood Wolf Gang and given the Lin Family’s current strength, they were still unable to contend against the Blood Wolf Gang. Although they were sort of under the protection of the Thousand Gold Association, it was still somewhat uncomfortable when faced with a faction like the Blood Wolf Gang that was eyeing them covetously. And this was also why Lin Dong did not dare to relax in his cultivation during the past half a month.

“If you are able to keep the Symbol Master Tower in Yan City, I can guarantee that the Blood Wolf Gang would not dare to touch your Lin Family.” Grandmaster Yan softly chuckled.

If it was before, Lin Dong would perhaps be a little suspicious of grandmaster Yan’s words. After all, although the latter was extremely powerful, he was still one lone man. But now that he knew that there was still the Symbol Master Guild behind this grandmaster, which did not lose out to the Blood Wolf Gang, Lin Dong’s eyes twinkled after hearing these words.

“Borrowing an outsider’s power to protect the Family was only a temporary measure in the end, only when one attained his own power could he truly protect his Family.” After seeing that Lin Dong was still unable to make his decision, grandmaster Yan was not worried but instead gently smiled as he said: “According to my calculations, you should have made a breakthrough to the second seal level over the past two months. At this speed, even if your talent for Mental Energy is extremely strong, you still need at least half a year or even a year to reach the third seal right?”

Lin Dong lightly nodded, though he had not relaxed even the slightest in his cultivation over the past month, he was clearly able to feel that his speed was not as rapid as before. Evidently, advancing to the advanced Yuan Dan stage or the third seal Symbol Master level would not be so simple. Even with the aid of the mysterious Stone Talisman, he would still need half a year, after all, if it were another person, it would be unthinkable even when given a few years.

Perhaps others would find this amount of time rather short, however, with the Blood Wolf Gang covetously eyeing them from one side, who could tell if there would be any changes to the situation in the next half a year?

“I have a method that will allow you to reach the third seal Symbol Master stage in half a year.”

Grandmaster Yan’s following words made Lin Dong’s heart skip a beat. Third seal Symbol Master, if he was able to reach that level, given his Mental Energy, he would probably be able to match up to

a fourth seal Symbol Master. At that time, even if he was not able to beat Yue Shan in battle, it would be enough such that the latter would not dare to make any careless moves.

However...if grandmaster Yan truly had such a method, why would he need Lin Dong for the Tower Battle?

“I’ve said it before, the Symbol Master Tower is considered as a holy ground to many Symbol Masters. Most importantly, it has the effect of tempering and purifying the mind.”

As if he knew about the doubts in Lin Dong’s heart, grandmaster Yan smiled as he said: “The Symbol Master Tower is split into nine levels. The higher the level, the more effective the tempering and purifying effect will be. If you are able to enter the seventh level, you have a chance to breakthrough to the third seal Symbol Master stage within half a year.”

“But don’t underestimate this seventh level. Within the Symbol Master Tower is the condensed Mental Energy of many past Symbol Masters. The mental pressure there is extremely huge, to reach the seventh level is no easy feat. All these years, there has been no one among the younger generation members of the Yan City Symbol Master Guild who has managed to reach the seventh level.”

“However, I feel that with your capabilities, reaching the seventh level should not be very difficult. As long as you are able to endure for ten days in the seventh level, you would definitely breakthrough to the third seal level within half a year!”

Lin Dong was a little speechless as he gazed at the smiling expression on grandmaster Yan's face. It turned out that he still had to rely on himself, although he had never known about the Symbol Master Tower before, he was able to imagine the difficulty in ascending the tower. At that time, who knew if he truly had the ability to reach the seventh level?

Upon seeing the expression on Lin Dong's face, grandmaster Yan could not help but chide: "Is this still not enough to satisfy a brat like you? There is nothing in this world that comes for free, if you wish for something, you need to fight for it yourself. Whatever level you manage to reach will depend on yourself, I do not have any way to help."

"Other than that, if you truly have the ability to directly ascend to the eighth level, it is said that an elder had left a Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill there. Whether you are able to obtain it would depend on your destiny."

"Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill?!"

After hearing this, a flame was swiftly lit in Lin Dong's eyes. Over this period of time, he had went to the Thousand Gold Association many times, yet the Secret Spirit Skills which he found were all only at the Essence level. As for Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill, he had not even seen the slightest indication of one. From this, one could tell how rare a Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill was.

"Little one, I have told you about all the benefits, if you are still

not satisfied, then there is nothing more I can do.” Grandmaster Yan stroked his beard as he said.

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong also became a little embarrassed. He no longer dared to hesitate as he hastily nodded his head: “Everything will be as grandmaster says.”

Although it was a little immoral for him to work as a hired thug for others, the reward that grandmaster Yan had talked about was too generous, such that Lin Dong was no longer able to reject.

After seeing this matter with Lin Dong had finally been settled, grandmaster Yan involuntarily sighed in relief. When he recalled the things that he had promised, he felt a little pain and resent in his heart. This brat was a truly difficult master to please.

“Grandmaster, when does the Tower Battle begin? How strong will my opponent be?” Since he had already agreed, Lin Dong also started to ask about his opponent.

“Haha, the Tower Battle competition was rather special because it is not an ordinary competition. The uses another method to determine the victor, which is ascending the tower!” Grandmaster Yan chuckled a little as he said.

“Ascending the tower?” Lin Dong was stunned, soon after, something seemed to have clicked in place for him: “Ascending the Symbol Master Tower?”

“Yes. The competition style is as I had explained before: to ascend the Symbol Master Tower. Whoever manages to ascend the highest and endure there the longest would be the final victor.” Grandmaster Yan smiled as he said.

“Isn’t that the same as the reward you promised me?” Lin Dong said in amazement.

“It seems to be.” Grandmaster Yan started laughing, the appearance he had now was an extremely crafty one.

As he gazed at grandmaster Yan’s sly smile, Lin Dong’s face started to twitch. After all this time, it was no reward but actually an unavoidable part of the competition.

“You got me.”

At this time, regret was no longer possible, thus, Lin Dong could only curtly reply.

“Previously, which level did the competitor from Sky Fire City reach?”

“The sixth level, and the competitor managed to endure there for eight days.” Grandmaster Yan softly sighed: “I heard that a few young Symbol Master geniuses had appeared in Sky Fire City. If my prediction are correct, their result this time will be better than last year.”

Lin Dong nodded, Sky Fire City was indeed the number two city in Tiandu province. The potential talent they tapped into was better than Yan City's.

“Therefore, this time, if you want to achieve a victory, you need to work hard and ascend to the seventh level of the Symbol Master Tower.” Grandmaster Yan wore a serious expression on his face as he spoke.

“Yan City is huge, there should be other young and reliable Symbol Masters in the Symbol Master Guild right?” Lin Dong knitted his eyebrows. Could it be that they were placing all their expectations solely on him?

“Haha, my Symbol Master Guild naturally has some talented individuals.” Grandmaster Yan slightly chuckled. Soon after, he lightly clapped and as his clap echoed out, the bamboo door was gently pushed open as an elegant figure strolled in.

Lin Dong turned his head to look behind as a stunned look flitted across his eyes.

The girl's figure was tall and slender, wearing a violet dress, her skin was like snow while her eyebrows were fine and shapely. An oval face, a small cherry-red mouth and delicate features all came together to create an extremely beautiful woman. However, that frigid yet pretty face clearly told others that no one should get close.

“Teacher.”

The violet clothed girl walked into the bamboo room as she bowed towards grandmaster Yan. Her voice was clear yet cold.

Ever since entering and greeting her teacher, the violet clothed girl did not once look at Lin Dong. Yet, Lin Dong did not feel that this was unexpected. Though this girl was admittedly beautiful, she was clearly an unreasonable ice queen, if she had greeted him kindly, it would have felt wrong.

“She is the most outstanding one among the youngsters of my Symbol Master Guild, Zi Yue. Currently, she is a second seal Symbol Master.” Grandmaster Yan smiled as he said.

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong was also somewhat amazed. He did not anticipate that this ice-cold beauty was actually a second seal Symbol Master. Looks like her Mental Energy talent was rather good.

“Zi Yue, my young friend Lin Dong is also considered one of my Yan City Symbol Masters. This time, I have invited him here for the Tower Battle matter, and also as an insurance of sorts.” Grandmaster Yan gazed at the ice-cold beauty called Zi Yue as he gently spoke.

After hearing grandmaster Yan’s words, Zi Yue finally shot an icy glance at Lin Dong before withdrawing her gaze as she said in an indifferent voice: “Teacher, this time, I will make sure Sky Fire City returns in defeat.”

Her tone was flat and a little icy. Even though she had not directly said it, Lin Dong could tell that she felt this move by grandmaster Yan was unnecessary...

Chapter 132: Say it again

Towards Zi Yue's almost expressionless face and indifferent tone, Lin Dong did not turn and leave in a petty manner. Previously, when he took part in the Celestial Dan Pool battle, Xia Zhilan had also mostly maintained such an attitude, however, compared to Xia Zhilan, this Zi Yue before him seemed even more unreasonable.

If Xia Zhilan was compared to Zi Yue, the former would actually be considered fairly gentle.

Grandmaster Yan let out a dry cough as he forced a smile and said: "Girl, you still have such a temper. Don't worry, Lin Dong's Mental Energy is not inferior to yours."

Upon hearing these words, Zi Yue's pretty eyes suddenly flashed. Without moving, a strong Mental Energy wave was as swift as lightning as it ruthlessly shot towards Lin Dong.

Lin Dong had yet to speak ever since she had entered the room. And just as this Mental Energy wave shot towards him, his eyebrow finally slightly raised. With a thought, Mental Energy that did not lose to hers gushed out of his Niwan Palace before moving to obstruct that Mental Energy wave.

"Swish!"

Zi Yue also sensed Lin Dong's defense, her beautiful eyes flickered as that Mental Energy wave weirdly split into ten

different parts, by passing Lin Dong's defence and once again dashing towards the latter.

The control Zi Yue had over Mental Energy somewhat exceeded Lin Dong's expectations. As expected, someone who was able to be regarded by grandmaster Yan indeed had some ability.

In response to the Mental Energy wave that made a beeline for him, Lin Dong did not try to obstruct it again. With a wave of his sleeve, the Mental Energy that was avoided by Zi Yue seemingly did not have any intention of returning as it directly condensed into a long Mental Energy needle and ruthlessly stabbed towards Zi Yue's forehead.

The two Mental Energies respectively rushed towards the two with the intention to harm. Although the scene looked calm, if they were hit by the attacks, both parties would be injured.

The long Mental Energy needle rapidly grew bigger before Zi Yue's eyes, she frostily stared at Lin Dong who was seated on the ground, still as a statue, before letting out a snort and dispersing the attacking Mental Energy wave. At the same time, another portion of Mental Energy gushed out from her Niwan Palace and smashed into the long Mental Energy needle.

“Snap!”

In the instance the two forces collided, the long Mental Energy needle shattered but did not dissipate as Zi Yue had expected. Instead, it transformed into numerous short fragments which

swiftly shot towards Zi Yue.

“Humph!”

Zi Yue clearly did not expect that Lin Dong’s control of Mental Energy had actually reached this level. Immediately, she once again snorted as she waved her lily-white hand. Mental Energy rapidly condensed before her and in the blink of an eye, it took the shape of an invisible Mental Energy shield.

“Clang clang clang!”

The Mental Energy fragments hit the Mental Energy shield, causing it to ripple. However, they did not seem to achieve any significant effect.

“A defensive type Secret Spirit Art...”

As he gazed at the Mental Energy shield that had formed in front of Zi Yue, astonishment flitted across Lin Dong’s eyes. Soon after, he inwardly sighed, being alone, he had to strive to get his own skills...

After blocking Lin Dong’s counter attack, the Mental Energy shield before Zi Yue also dissipated. Beautiful yet cold eyes took one look at Lin Dong before finally speaking to him for the first time: “Decently skilled.”

Although it was only a preliminary exchange, Zi Yue was able to

sense that Lin Dong indeed had some ability, thus, the frostiness in her voice was slightly milder. After all, strength was the swiftest way to gain recognition, though Lin Dong did not care about her recognition.

“Haha, if you don’t fight you won’t get to understand each other...” At this time, the spectator, grandmaster Yan chuckled as he spoke.

Lin Dong rolled his eyes at him before sighing: “When does the Tower Battle start?”

“In two days.”

Grandmaster Yan smiled as he replied: “However, some Symbol Masters from other cities have already rushed here today, since you are still new to the Symbol Master Guild, it just happens that Zi Yue can bring you around.”

Lin Dong was stunned, just as he was about to reject, Zi Yue had already nodded her head in a mechanical manner: “Yes, teacher.”

Yet, after she said these words, she made no indication to move. Lin Dong looked at her and without saying anything, he stood up first and brought Little Flame out of the bamboo house.

Gazing at the man and tiger as they walked out of the door, Zi Yue’s lily-white hand brushed away a strand of fine black hair across her forehead as her shapely eyebrows knitted together

before speaking: “Teacher does not trust me?”

“Sigh, you little girl, what are you thinking again. With your strength, there is a high chance of victory this time. Teacher only did this as an addition form of insurance. After all, our Yan City Symbol Master Guild has already lost twice. If we lose again this time, the Symbol Master Tower would be relocated to Sky Fire City. This matter is of utmost importance, I cannot be careless.” Grandmaster Yan helplessly explained.

“If I am no good, that person will also be useless.” Zi Yue was silent for a while before she replied. In their previous exchange, she had sensed that there was not much difference between them. If even she were to fail, then Lin Dong would not fare any better.

“It’s hard to say...”

However, grandmaster Yan slowly shook his head as he earnestly said: “You should know that just a year before, Lin Dong did not even know anything about Mental Energy. Yet, in a mere year, he was able to reach the same level as you. This level of Mental Energy talent is extremely overwhelming.”

“Perhaps he had a miraculous encounter.” Zi Yue softly said. It must be said that a woman’s intuition was very terrifying.

“Perhaps. However, luck is also a type of strength.”

Grandmaster Yan lightly nodded, soon after, he spoke in a low

voice: “Plus, even if your Mental Energy is not weaker than his, if you truly fought, your chance of losing would likely be greater. This is because Lin Dong’s ways are more ruthless than yours. Not only against an enemy, but also to himself...”

“From the previous exchange, he was clearly able to withdraw and take defensive measures, yet, he still chose to take the risk to attack, this ability to fight as if his life was on the line is one where you are lacking compared to him. Therefore, in the end, you still chose to return and defend.”

“Do not underestimate Lin Dong. Although he is not even twenty years of age, even Gu Ying and a crafty fox like Wei Tong met their ends at his hand. This little brat would definitely be something when he grows up in the future.” Grandmaster Yan sincerely said.

Zi Yue was silent, no one knew if these words had managed to reach her.

“Haha, you do not need to think too much. First go and bring Lin Dong around, other than that, make sure you are amply prepared over these two days. No matter what, we must not lose again to Sky Fire City in the Tower Battle this time!”

“Yes!”

Zi Yue nodded her head before bowing. Only then did she gracefully withdraw from the bamboo house.

.....

“Let’s go.”

Zi Yue walked out of the room and gazed at Lin Dong, who was standing at the door, as her indifferent voice sounded out. She then proceeded to lead him, the latter could only grimace, he had originally wanted to say that he had some matters to attend to and had to make a move first. However, Zi Yue did not give him this chance.

Since he had come, he should make the most of it. Lin Dong followed behind Zi Yue as they walked in the seemingly ordinary yet extremely important and spacious courtyard in Yan City. Along the way, he saw quite a few Symbol Masters, who cast some astonished gazes towards the fact that he was following behind Zi Yue.

As they walked, he could tell that Zi Yue had a rather substantial reputation here. When some Symbol Masters saw her, they seemed to become ‘yes-men’. This caused Lin Dong to be somewhat surprised, even though this ice queen was quite powerful, others need not be afraid of her to this extent right?

While the two travelled, there was not much interaction between them. Zi Yue did not seem even the slightest bit like a guide and Lin Dong could only feel a deep sense of helplessness towards this. This kind of woman was truly a headache.

After walking for about ten minutes, the two finally reached the

deeper part of the courtyard. At this moment, Lin Dong suddenly lifted his head to gaze at a nearby ash-colored tower as his expression turned a little serious. From that tower, he could sense an extremely frightening Mental Energy. This Mental Energy was by far greater than even grandmaster Yan's.

“That is the Symbol Master Tower. It was condensed with the Mental Energy of numerous past Symbol Masters and is the holy land of our Yan City Symbol Masters.”

While Lin Dong was still mind-blown at the terrifying Mental Energy from within the tower, Zi Yue finally opened her mouth and spoke.

Lin Dong nodded his head. This Symbol Master Tower was indeed somewhat mystical, no wonder grandmaster Yan regarded it so importantly.

After saying those few words, Zi Yue once again continued to walk. After journeying for a few minutes, her footsteps suddenly came to a halt as her beautiful eyes gazed at the plaza that had appeared before her. Currently, there were quite a few people in the plaza and what amazed Lin Dong was that all of these people were Symbol Masters.

Zi Yue walked along one of the paths at the side of the plaza and stared arrogantly at the plaza. Her fine, long and shapely eyebrows slightly knitted together.

Lin Dong stood at her side and took a look at the plaza. Currently,

there were two people competing in the plaza while a many people crowded around them, yelling and cheering.

Lin Dong's gaze also scanned the scene as a trace of astonishment flitted across his eyes. He had found that the white clothed man inside the plaza had actually reached the second seal Symbol Master level! Yet his opponent was only a first seal Symbol Master, clearly, there was nothing exciting about such a match.

As Lin Dong had expected, nothing of interest occurred in their competition. In a few rounds, the first seal Symbol Master was quickly defeated as gasps sounded out from the surroundings.

“The Yan City Symbol Master Guild is indeed sloppy and ordinary. Looks like the Symbol Master Tower will soon belong to our Sky Fire City.” The white clothed man evidently had a rather wild character. Instead of being humble, he heartily laughed as he declared.

His laughter immediately drew some furious gazes, however, he payed no attention to them as took a step forward and sneered: “If anyone disagrees, feel free to step up. Truth be told, I am only one of the higher ranking members in Sky Fire City's Symbol Master Guild. If all of you are unable to beat even me, I think it would be better to just do away with this time's Tower Battle. It would save you guys the trouble!”

“Third senior is right!”

The white clothed man's words also drew the support of some of

the Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City. After hearing these words, some of the Yan City Symbol Masters turned red with anger, however, there was after all quite a gap between them and the former while the elites of their faction were not here. For a time, no one dared to speak up.

“Oh...this person has become a second seal Symbol Master and is only one of the better few in Sky Fire City. Looks like Sky Fire City indeed has many capable talents.” On the walkway, Lin Dong stroked his chin, appearing as if he had something on his mind.

Just as these words were said, he suddenly felt a frosty gaze staring at him. Immediately, he coughed, feeling that something bad was about to happen, he straightaway opened his mouth and said: “Miss Zi Yue, I still have some matters to attend to at home, I’ll have to take my leave first...”

However, Zi Yue ignored his words. Her beautiful eyes were fixed on Lin Dong as a dazzling and breathtaking smile suddenly appeared on her ice-cold face.

“As a Yan City Symbol Master, you have the duty to protect the prestige of our city’s Symbol Masters. You can deal with this arrogant guy.”

Though her tone was one of inquiry, just as her words were spoken, Lin Dong felt a portion of Mental Energy gush out from behind him before directly pushing him into the plaza, coincidentally landing right before the white clothed man...

“Good, very courageous!”

“As expected of our Yan City Symbol Masters.”

Lin Dong’s movement initially caused the some of the Symbol Masters from Yan City to be stunned, but quickly after, waves of cheers exploded out. Although they did not know if Lin Dong had the ability, his courage was praise worthy.

After hearing the surrounding cheers, Lin Dong rolled his eyes.

“Heh, Yan City sure has some over prideful guys. However, this is also good, I’ve yet to have fulfill myself today!”

“Sorry, I went to the wrong place...”

Yet, in response to these words, Lin Dong merely shrugged his shoulders and spoke a sentence that caused the surrounding audience to become dumbstuck. Before his words could fade, he planned to turn and leave, although he was not afraid, he did not want to engage in fights that were not of his own initiative.

On the pathway, Zi Yue was also stunned by Lin Dong’s actions. Soon after, her long and shapely eyebrows almost became vertical in anger.

“Cowardly trash.”

The white clothed man pursed his lips as he shook his head and sneered.

“Huu...”

Just as Lin Dong turned, he suddenly stopped before raising his head and lightly breathing out. He once gain turned around, the smile on his face was particularly wide.

“Can you say that again?”

Chapter 133: Cao Zhu

Gazing at the seemingly smiling expression on Lin Dong's face, a cold light flitted across the white clothed man's eyes. He stared at Lin Dong and icily spit out a word: "Trash!"

As the word left his mouth, the atmosphere in the plaza suddenly became tensed. Everyone knew that today's matter would not end well.

On the walkway, Zi Yue also secretly sighed in relief. She did not expect that Lin Dong had such a temperament. Just moments before, he had actually turned and was planning to leave, she did not doubt that if it were not for those last few words from the other party, Lin Dong would have ditched her without turning back.

"I'm interested to found exactly what makes you so special that teacher regards you so highly..." Zi Yue stared at the figure in the plaza as she mumbled to herself. Though she managed to grasp a portion of Lin Dong's abilities in their previous exchange, she still did not believe what grandmaster Yan had said: that she was inferior to him.

As one of the well-known figures among the younger generation of Yan City's Symbol Masters, Zi Yue always had a certain level of self-confidence. Currently, she had already reached the peak of the second seal Symbol Master stage and was only a single step from reaching the third seal. This kind of achievement was already outstanding among her peers.

Though she had heard of Wei Tong's defeat at Lin Dong's hand, Zi Yue felt that the biggest factor that led to his victory was the strength of his Yuan Power. With regards to the fact that Lin Dong was able to advance to the initial Yuan Dan stage at such a young age, she was indeed a little amazed, yet, that was the limit of her amazement. No matter how strong one's Yuan Power was, it was useless in the Symbol Master Tower. There, only powerful Mental Energy would become one's greatest shield.

Plus, most of the clashes between Symbol Masters were based on Mental Energy, therefore, as long as Lin Dong exchanged blows with that white clothed man, Zi Yue would be able to get a feel of his true abilities.

In the plaza, Lin Dong gazed at the sneering man in white. He could tell that this person was intentionally challenging Yan City's Symbol Masters.

“You're planning on being to vanguard to test Yan City's Symbol Masters?”

Upon hearing Lin Dong's words, the white clothed man's eyes slightly narrowed but he did not answer. Instead sneered and said: “Brat, cut the crap, if you don't dare to fight then get lost and let a more capable person from your side come out.”

Though he wore a sneer on his mouth, the white clothed man was somewhat alarmed in his heart. Although he had a haughty personality, he was after all no simpleton. Naturally, he would not come to another faction's territory and be arrogant for no reason. The reason why he did so was exactly as Lin Dong had said, he was

under orders to find out what kind of talent this batch of younger generation members from Yan City had.

“Since that is so...then, let’s do it.” Lin Dong chuckled before taking two steps back as he casually replied.

“Humph, brat, I am Cao Zhu from Sky Fire City’s Symbol Master Guild. You better remember this name!”

The white clothed man snorted as he spoke, yet, he was clearly a cunning one as before his words could fade away, several icy lights suddenly shot out from his sleeves and quickly flew towards Lin Dong.

“Ding ding!”

Faced with Cao Zhu’s sudden attack, Lin Dong did not move, his finger lightly flicked as several black shadows also shot out from his sleeves and easily blocked Cao Zhu’s attack.

After blocking Cao Zhu’s attack, the onlookers discovered that those icy lights were three sharp short swords. The short swords were entirely white, so much so that they seemed to emit a slight chill. Furthermore, when Lin Dong’s Shattered Yuan Shrapnels made contact with the short swords, to his amazement, he found that the Mental Energy he had covered the Shattered Yuan Shrapnels in were stung by the chill, causing him to feel extreme pain.

“Mysterious Ice Metal”

Lin Dong glanced at the three snow-white short swords that were covered all over with sharp sawteeth and managed to identify them. Mysterious Ice Metal was an unusual and rare metal which was formed only in extremely cold places. It possessed an astonishingly cold Qi which could do harm even to Mental Energy.

Lin Dong did not expect that Cao Zhu would actually have this kind of treasure, no wonder he dared to be so arrogant.

Yet, although Lin Dong had suffered a little at the hands of the cold Qi, Cao Zhu was even more greatly alarmed in his heart. In the split moment when the two sides collided, he astonishingly found that the Mental Energy he covered the Mysterious Ice Swords in was unexpectedly almost scattered. Evidently, the former's Mental Energy was stronger than his own!

“Since when did such powerful individual appear among Yan City's younger generation?” Cao Zhu muttered in his heart. Soon after, the cold light in his eyes shined even brighter as the three Mysterious Ice Swords suddenly danced in mid air, transforming into sword images that gave out a potent cold Qi as they trickily shot towards Lin Dong.

From the looks of it, Cao Zhu seemed to be an expert at attacking through using Mental Energy to control objects. The tricky trajectory plus the additional cold Qi on the swords would be difficult to deal with even for an initial Yuan Dan stage practitioner.

However, these did not pose even the slightest threat to Lin Dong. He lifted his palm as ten Shattered Yuan Shrapnels burst forward, obstructing Cao Zhu's three Mysterious Ice Swords with 'ding ding dang dang' sounds, such that they were unable to encroach on the area within a few feet of Lin Dong.

Cao Zhu's level of Mental Energy control was clearly inferior to Lin Dong's. Although Cao Zhu relied on the power of the cold Qi from the Mysterious Ice Swords, he was still unable to break the defense of the seemingly tiny Shattered Yuan Shrapnels.

“Swish!”

While using the Shattered Yuan Shrapnels to block the other party's Mysterious Ice Swords, Lin Dong smiled at Cao Zhu as the sole of his foot stepped off the ground. His figure shot towards the latter like an arrow while a strong Yuan Power undulation emitted from within his body.

Upon seeing Lin Dong dash towards him, Cao Zhu was alarmed as his figure hastily retreated. Soon after, a Mental Energy shock wave swiftly burst out from his Niwan Palace and ferociously charged towards Lin Dong.

As he sensed the swiftly approaching Mental Energy wave, Lin Dong's eyes flickered but he did not take any evasive maneuvers. Instead, he extended a palm, under his control, a Destiny Soul Symbol appeared just beneath the layer of skin on his palm. Immediately, that Destiny Soul Symbol squirmed as it transformed

into Soul Symbol vortex.

“Chi chi!”

Lin Dong’s palm directly grabbed the Mental Energy shock wave, and what caused Cao Zhu to be shocked, was that not only did the shock wave not do any damage to Lin Dong, it was instead dissipated the instant Lin Dong grabbed it.

While Cao Zhu was shocked by this, joy bubbled up in Lin Dong’s heart. This was because he had discovered that that Mental Energy shock wave was completely gobbled up by the Destiny Soul Symbol hidden within his palm.

“What a tyrannical Soul Symbol, to think that it could even gobble up another person’s Mental Energy attack and assimilate it for one’s own usage.”

Lin Dong was both pleasantly surprised and shocked. This was the first time he had heard of such a tyrannical Destiny Soul Symbol, he could not help but be somewhat suspicious; was this mysterious Destiny Symbol truly just a mere Soul Symbol?

The shock in his heart did not last for long as Lin Dong quickly suppressed it. He lifted his head and gazed at the astonished look on Cao Zhu’s face and could not help but chuckle. Lin Dong’s body moved again and appeared before the latter, the Soul Symbol vortex within his right palm swiftly grabbing at Cao Zhu’s head.

Upon seeing Lin Dong's hand swing towards him, Cao Zhu hastily retreated as his body emitted Yuan Power undulations. However, since he was already not Lin Dong's match in Mental Energy, it was even more impossible to contend with Yuan Power. Therefore, before he could retreat, Lin Dong appeared behind the latter like a demon as his palm touched the latter's head.

Just as Lin Dong's palm connected with Cao Zhu's head, the latter's body started jerking violently. Horror quickly filled his eyes, as he found to his dismay, that the two Destiny Symbols within his Niwan Palace started to tremble as streams of Mental Energy flowed out without control, before finally being sucked into Lin Dong's palm.

“Pu chi!”

This weird predicament caused Cao Zhu to become extremely desperate. Unable to deal with it, he forcefully turned his head as an arrow of blood shot out from his mouth towards Lin Dong's throat.

Within this blood arrow was an exceedingly strong Yuan Power undulation. Evidently, this was Cao Zhu's last-ditch effort and this move indeed caused Lin Dong to jolt his body backwards while Cao Zhu borrowed this short moment to escape Lin Dong's palm.

“Swish swish!”

Just as Cao Zhu was escaping, Lin Dong's eyebrow raised and with a flick of his mind, a vigorous Mental Energy condensed

before him into ten ‘Materialized Spirit Needles’. In a flash, they appeared around the deathly pale Cao Zhu, the sharp points of the needles glimmered with an icy light.

“Stop, I admit defeat, I admit defeat!”

As he gazed at the long Mental Energy needles that floated around him, Cao Zhu’s body turned rigid. In the short few minutes of their exchange, he had been beaten so badly till he did not even have the opportunity to retaliate. Even his originally deadly Mysterious Ice Swords were easily disabled. Thus, to avoid any physical pain, he promptly gave up as he loudly shouted out.

“Hss!”

Upon seeing this chap admit defeat, the surrounding Yan City Symbol Masters let out hisses of disapproval. Many of them wanted revenge for the humiliation from before, they hurled ridicule and mockery at Cao Zhu, causing him to turn green with anger. Yet, before the threat of the Materialized Spirit Needles around him dispersed, he did not dare to open his mouth.

On the walkway, Zi Yue was also shocked by this scene. Truth be told, she was unable to make heads or tails of this battle. No matter what, Cao Zhu was a second seal Symbol Master and Lin Dong should not have so absolutely dominated the former.

Logically speaking, this should have been so. If Lin Dong had utilised ordinary methods, he would probably have to tangle for a while before finally defeating his opponent. Yet no one had

expected that Lin Dong's strange 'Soul Symbol vortex' would be able to absorb a huge portion of the Mental Energy, within Cao Zhu's Niwan Palace, in such a short time. How could Cao Zhu possibly retaliate?

Lin Dong smiled as glanced at Cao Zhu, but did not immediately disperse the 'Materialized Spirit Needles'. Instead, he beckoned with his hand and recalled not only the ten Shattered Yuan Shrapnels, but also forcefully retrieved the three Mysterious Ice Swords.

Upon seeing that Lin Dong had actually taken away the 'Mysterious Ice Swords', Cao Zhu's cheeks started to tremble.

"Let this be my victory prize. Many thanks."

Lin Dong chuckled, ignoring Cao Zhu's furious gaze as he kept the swords into his Qiankun bag. Lin Dong cupped his hands towards the latter in thanks before withdrawing his gaze and casually glancing at Zi Yue. Without bothering to say anything, he turned exited the stage under the respectful gazes of the group of Yan City's Symbol Masters.

Chapter 134: Mysterious Ice Swords

The crowd stared at Lin Dong's departing figure, a long time passed before they finally regained their senses. Immediately, gasps of admiration echoed out like a tide.

“Who is he? Such a fearsome individual, even Cao Zhu was not his match.”

“He should be a Symbol Master from our Yan City right?”

“It's Lin Dong! I saw him at the duel arena before. He is the one who killed Wei Tong of the Blood Cloth Sect.”

“Oh, so he is that Lin Dong. He indeed lives up to his reputation...”

“.....”

When he heard the soft mutterings from the crowd, Cao Zhu's facial expression turned exceptionally ugly. One of the Symbol Master from Sky Fire City intended to help him up but was instead forcefully pushed away by him. Today, he had utterly disgraced himself. Furthermore, besides suffering a massive defeat, he had even lost his Mysterious Ice Swords, a double whammy!

“Mysterious Ice Swords...”

As he recalled his treasures, Cao Zhu felt as if he was painfully bleeding inside. Mysterious Ice Metal was extremely rare and hence very costly. In order to forge those three Mysterious Ice Swords, he had spent a total of thirty thousand Yang Yuan Stones. And now, his most precious and valued possession had been directly taken away by Lin Dong as a victory spoil. If he was not afraid of Lin Dong's peculiar methods, he would have snatched back his 'Mysterious Ice Swords' on the spot even at the cost of heavy injuries!

“Go!”

Since his treasure had already been taken away, nothing would change no matter how much he bled in his heart. Cao Zhu could only suppress the rage in his heart as he crawled up and exited the plaza.

“Lin Dong, just wait. In a few days, my seniors from Sky Fire City will arrive, I will make you spit everything back out then!”

As they stared at Cao Zhu, who was gnashing his teeth together, as he walked away, the few Sky Fire City Symbol Masters behind him exchanged looks with each other. Right now, none of them dared to interact with him and could only follow behind him as their sorry figures left the grounds together.

As she gazed at Cao Zhu's and rest's sorry figures, Zi Yue gently shook her head before turning to gaze into the distance. Lin Dong's departing glance from before made her understand that he was not happy with her actions.

This glance also caused Zi Yue to be slightly perplexed. Since young, thanks to her unique status, talents, plus her beautiful looks, she had always been viewed with loving and adoring gazes. Therefore, truth be told, this was the first time that someone had given her an intolerable look.

“Humph, if you want to show your temper in front of me, make sure you perform well at the Tower Battle first.”

As she recalled his glance, Zi Yue involuntarily snorted. With a swish of her lily-white hands, she turned to leave. She was cold and prideful by nature and there was still no younger generation member in Yan City who could meet her expectations.

Even Lin Dong was unworthy!

.....

When Lin Dong left the Yan City Symbol Master Guild, he did not loiter around and directly returned to the Lin Family before entering into his personal small courtyard.

“Contrary to my expectations, that fellow has some good stuff.”

In the courtyard, Lin Dong stared at the three ‘Mysterious Ice Swords’ that were hovering in front of him as traces of a potent cold Qi slowly seeped out. As he exhaled, his breath unexpectedly turned into a thin layer of frost with a ‘chi chi’ sound.

As he witnessed this scene, Lin Dong nodded in satisfaction. With this haul, at least his efforts were not wasted. In the previous battle against these ‘Mysterious Ice Swords’, four of his ten Shattered Yuan Shrapnels had been corroded by the cold Qi from the Mysterious Ice Swords.

Lin Dong blinked as an invisible light beam shot out from his eyes before transforming into a glowing symbol that appeared on the three ‘Mysterious Ice Swords’. Instantly, a powerful Mental Energy gushed forth. In a blink of an eye, they wrapped around the “Mysterious Ice Swords” in an almost tyrannical fashion.

Even though Cao Zhu was not skilled enough to imprint a Mental Energy brand on the “Mysterious Ice Swords”, because he had used them for such a long time, he left some traces of his Mental Energy behind. Therefore, in order for Lin Dong to obtain complete control over these ‘Mysterious Ice Swords’, he had to thoroughly purge any remaining Mental Energy in them.

Fortunately, Cao Zhu’s Mental Energy was lacking compared to Lin Dong’s. Therefore, it was a simple task. In a few minutes, Lin Dong’s Mental Energy had thoroughly cleansed the three ‘Mysterious Ice Swords’ and severed any remaining links they had to Cao Zhu.

“Swish swish!”

Mental Energy wrapped around the ‘Mysterious Ice Swords’, and with a flick of his mind, three snow-white short swords were akin

to three lightning-bolts, as they furiously whirled around his body. As they spun around, they seemed to merged together. The force generated was exceedingly powerful and thanks to the cold Qi, their destructive potential was several times stronger than his Shattered Yuan Shrapnel.

“Excellent!”

As he gazed at the three white sword images, the delight on Lin Dong’s face intensified. After toying with them for half a day, he was perfectly contented as he finally kept them in his Qiankun bag.

“Cao Zhu is already a second seal Symbol Master. But according to him, he is only the third-ranked member in the Sky Fire City Symbol Master Guild. Therefore, the two ranked above him should be much more formidable.” After he kept his victory spoils, Lin Dong’s eyebrows furrowed slightly. This Sky Fire City seemed much stronger than Yan City, hence, it was best to be cautious.

Even though the so-called Tower Battle was based on who could advance to the highest level and remain there the longest, Lin Dong did not believe that there would be no secret plots. With two large groups of people rushing in together, having methods to stealthily finish off one’s opponents was a common-place. Hence, it was best to take some precautions.

As he thought of this point, Lin Dong solemnly nodded his head. Then, he slowly shut his eyes as his mind submerged into his Niwan Palace.

As he observed his Niwan Palace, Lin Dong was shocked to discover that his two Destiny Soul Symbols seemed much brighter compared to yesterday. The Mental Energy undulations that filled the air also seemed stronger too.

“Was it because I swallowed Cao Zhu’s Mental Energy?”

Lin Dong’s mind was shaken as he recalled the events that occurred previously, which caused his facial expression to change slightly. The ability to consume another’s Mental Energy to boost one’s strength seemed too tyrannical. This ability must not be revealed, or it would surely lead to some unexpected trouble.

Thankfully, as long as Lin Dong kept his mouth shut, no one would guess that he had the ability to absorb another’s Mental Energy. Even Cao Zhu only knew that Lin Dong had the peculiar ability to dissipate Mental Energy. However, the latter would never have expected that the dissipated Mental Energy had now become part of Lin Dong’s Mental Energy...

“What exactly is this Destiny Soul Symbol?”

Lin Dong stared intensely at the two Destiny Soul Symbols floating in his Niwan Palace as he muttered to himself. He had never imagined that the item he picked up from a roadside stall actually possessed such a miraculous ability.

Even after racking his brains, Lin Dong was unable to figure out any answers. Finally, he helplessly shook his head as he exited his Niwan Palace. Then, he once again ventured into the Stone

Talisman Spiritual Domain and went to the Mind Millstones to temper his Mental Energy.

With regards to the Tower Battle, Lin Dong was not too interested. However, he was exceptionally interested in the cleansing ability of the Symbol Master Tower. Furthermore, he was also extremely interested in the Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill placed on the eighth floor of the tower. Therefore, should an opportunity present itself, he would definitely try his best to obtain it. Naturally, it would be best if he could obtain it, but if he could not, it would be fine as well.

Therefore, in the two remaining days, he needed make good use of this time to temper his Mental Energy. After all, based on the performance by Cao Zhu, the young Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City seemed pretty skilled...

.....

Two day passed in the blink of an eye.

When dawn arrived on the third day, Lin Dong had already left the Lin Family. With regards to his participation in the Tower Battle, Lin Dong did not bother to tell Lin Xiao and the rest. Right now, he was no longer a little kid and could make his own decisions. Similarly, Lin Xiao and the rest understood this principle, therefore they did not bother to restrict Lin Dong's actions.

The Tower Battle between the two major cities should have been

a pretty spectacular event. However, Lin Dong did not hear much discussion regarding this matter inside Yan City. He guessed that both parties must have deliberately kept it a secret. Except for a few big shots, most ordinary people did not know about it. Hence, on this seemingly peaceful day, an exceptionally exciting Symbol Master contest was about to begin.

When Lin Dong once again entered the Symbol Master Guild, he found that the number of people in the spacious courtyard had doubled compared to two days before. Amongst the greenery was a rowdy atmosphere.

“You are not late.”

Not long after Lin Dong entered the grounds, a slightly eye-catching purple dress appeared before his eyes. As he stared at Zi Yue icily cold yet pretty face, Lin Dong felt slightly troubled. Did this woman truly believe that the whole world owes her a living? Isn't wearing a long face the entire day tiring?

“Lead the way.”

Lin Dong secretly sighed in his heart, before he immediately waved his hands unceremoniously. It was as though he treated Zi Yue as his guide.

When she saw Lin Dong's attitude, Zi Yue's eyebrows slightly furrowed, before she immediately turned and walked off. The former spread out his hands in helplessness as he slowly followed behind.

As he followed Zi Yue, they gradually ventured deeper into the Symbol Master Guild. Moments later, the Symbol Master Tower that emitted a terrifying Mental Energy undulation appeared before Lin Dong's eyes.

Right below the Symbol Master Tower was a large spacious ground. However, right now, this ground was already packed with people. When Lin Dong saw this sight, he involuntarily released a pained laugh. It seems like every Symbol Master in Yan City was crowded in this spot today.

As his eyes scanned across this large space, Lin Dong promptly discovered that this large space had been divided into two sections. The section filled with more people naturally belonged to the Yan City Symbol Master Guild, while the other section belonged to the Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City.

Lin Dong's eyes stopped at the Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City. At that area, he had seen Cao Zhu's familiar face, to which he immediately chuckled.

Just as Lin Dong saw Cao Zhu, the latter evidently noticed him as well. Immediately, his facial expression turned extremely ugly as he turned to murmur softly to a handsome young man dressed in silver robes, who stood beside him.

Lin Dong somewhat intriguingly stared at this sight as he crossed his arms.

“That is Cao Zhu’s second senior, Liu Long. He is even tougher to deal with than Cao Zhu.” While Lin Dong was staring at them, to his side, Zi Yue explained in an icy voice. Within her clear voice, one could unexpectedly detect a slight warning message.

Lin Dong glanced at her in astonishment. Just as he was about to reply, he suddenly discovered that the man dressed in silver robes, together with Cao Zhu, was now walking towards him with a smile on his face.

“Haha, I guess this must be brother Lin Dong?”

The man dressed in silver robes gently smiled at Lin Dong, before his eyes paused for a moment on Zi Yue’s slender body. Then, with a smile, he said: “With regards to the events that transpired two days ago, Cao Zhu was rash. I hope brother Lin Dong can forgive us.”

“No worries, no worries.”

Lin Dong also smiled as he replied. He could tell that Liu Long was stronger than Cao Zhu. However, dogs that bite do not show their teeth. Though this man seemed like a decent person on the outside, anyone could tell that he was a treacherous person...

“Haha, if that is the case, I am relieved.”

Upon hearing these words, Liu Long seemingly heaved a sigh of relief. Then, with a slight smile on his face, he asked: “I wonder if

brother Lin Dong would kindly return the ‘Mysterious Ice Swords’ to my junior?”

“Mysterious Ice Swords?”

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong stood dazedly. He foolishly scratched his head as he asked: “What is that?”

When he saw Lin Dong’s actions, Cao Zhu, who was standing to one side, instantly fumed, as if fire was about to spout out from both of his eyes. Even the smile on Liu Long’s face turned slightly stiff.

Chapter 135: The Tower Battle Begins

To one side, Zi Yue was similarly taken aback by Lin Dong's suspiciously innocent reply. Promptly, the corners of her lips involuntarily turned slightly upwards. Even though she did not like this kind of rascally actions, when she saw Cao Zhu's and Liu Long's expressions, she was a little elated in her heart.

“Lin Dong, don't you dare deny it!”

Cao Zhu's face was flushed red with rage as he angrily hollered at Lin Dong. He never expected that Lin Dong would be so shameless. It had only been two days, yet he had completely forgotten about this matter.

Liu Long's mind was evidently sharper than Cao Zhu's. Even though he knew that Lin Dong was toying with them, the smile on his face remained as he said: “Brother Lin Dong, it is said that people get to know each other through scuffles. It's always best to have friends rather than enemies. For the sake of merely three Mysterious Ice Swords, you end up hurting your reputation among the Symbol Masters in Sky Fire City. That doesn't seem worthwhile.”

Though Liu Long's tone was good-natured, his words carried an implicit threat.

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong smiled once again. Promptly, he stared earnestly at Liu Long and said: “I really do not know what you are talking about.”

“Bastard!”

Cao Zhu was fuming with rage. His eyes were almost spitting fire as he stared daggers at Lin Dong. It seemed like he would snap and attack Lin Dong at any moment.

Just as Cao Zhu was about to snap and attack Lin Dong, Liu Long extended a hand and stopped the former. With a slightly icy expression, he glared at Cao Zhu. Moments later, Liu Long slowly said: “If that is the case, I shall not force you. However, brother Lin Dong is taking part in the Tower Battle too right? Haha, the Tower Battle can be quite dangerous. You should take care.”

After he finished speaking, without further ado, he immediately turned to leave. Behind him, Cao Zhu gnashed his teeth as he looked at the small smile on Lin Dong’s face. But when Cao Zhu recalled the tragic loss that he suffered two days ago, he lost the guts to attack in the end. He could only wave his sleeve, before he spat out a fierce ‘you just wait’ at Lin Dong before catching up to Liu Long.

“During the Tower Battle, take note to be extra careful.” To one side, Zi Yue spoke in an indifferent manner.

“We can fight inside the Symbol Master Tower?” Lin Dong smiled as he asked.

“If you are still able to fight under the Mental Energy pressure, it is not against the rules.”

“I understand...”

Lin Dong nodded his head. Just like he had expected, this so-called Tower Battle was not going to be too friendly...

Not long after Liu Long and Cao Zhu departed, a commotion erupted in the Sky Fire City Symbol Master Guild's section. Promptly, a few figures walked out. The man leading the way, was a grey-haired elderly man with a cold expression on his face.

“This is the man leading the Sky Fire City Symbol Guild this time, Han Yun. He is also a fourth seal Symbol Master.”

When he heard Zi Yue's clear yet cold voice, Lin Dong gently nodded his head. He could sense a Mental Energy undulation from the man's body that did not lose out to grandmaster Yan's.

“Oh?”

Lin Dong eyes swept across that Han Yun, before it paused at a young man behind him. The young man was rather plain looking and a pair of thick eyebrows. However, the Symbol Masters around him treated him fairly respectfully. Even Liu Long was conscientiously standing behind that young man.

“That is our Sky Fire City Symbol Masters' strongest opponent this time. He is the most powerful younger generation Symbol Master from Sky Fire City, Zhou Tong. It is said that he had

already advanced to the second seal Symbol Master level two years ago.” While Lin Dong was staring at that man, Zi Yue’s frosty yet beautiful face turned slightly serious as she softly uttered

“He had become a second seal Symbol Master two years ago...”

A glint flashed across Lin Dong’s eyes. It seems like the Sky Fire City Symbol Master Guild’s overall strength surpassed Yan City’s. It was no wonder that they had lost twice in a row.

As these words passed between the two, grandmaster Yan also led a few of Yan City’s fairly renowned Symbol Masters as they walked to welcome Han Yun and his group. Though both parties were all smiles, Lin Dong could tell that their smiles were not natural nor genuine. Of course, when faced with the bandits who aimed to steal their Symbol Master Tower, no one could be so cordial.

“Everyone, with regards to the Tower Battle, there are not too many rules. Whoever can rush to the highest level and stay there the longest will be the ultimate victor.”

“Furthermore, a word of caution. Please know your own limits, if you cannot endure any further, do not force yourself!”

Since both parties were not on friendly terms, after a customary welcome, grandmaster Yan’s clear voice sounded out.

“Of course, if you wish to battle in the tower, I hope that no one will go overboard.”

Grandmaster Yan definitely knew about the private duels that occurred within the tower. After all, he had likewise participated in these battles in the past. Therefore, he decided to give a warning beforehand.

“In a battle, injuries are almost unavoidable and rather normal.” However, in response to grandmaster Yan’s words, grandmaster Han Yun from Sky Fire City casually retorted.

“Furthermore, Yan Xuan, this is the last chance for your Yan City Symbol Master Guild. If you once again lose to our Sky Fire City, this Symbol Master Tower shall belong to our Sky Fire City.”

“Humph, speak after you win.” After hearing these words, grandmaster Yan’s expression sunk as he retorted.

Han Yun casually smiled as he said: “Any further words are pointless at this juncture. Start the Tower Battle.”

Grandmaster Yan’s facial expression was slightly ugly now. However, he could not fall out with grandmaster Han Yuan at this time. With a wave of his hand, he immediately led three middle-aged Symbol Masters and walked to the entrance of the Symbol Master Tower.

When they saw the quartet’s actions, the Symbol Masters surrounding them hastily withdrew. Soon after, they stared at that ash gray Symbol Master Tower with a heated expression in their eyes. Even though the Symbol Master Tower possessed a divine

cleansing effect, even as members of the Yan City Symbol Master Guild, they only had very few opportunities to enjoy it every year.

A powerful Mental Energy undulation gushed out from grandmaster Yan and the trio like a tide. Eventually, their bodies began to gradually lift off, before they hovered around half a foot off the ground.

“Open the Symbol Master Tower!”

A deep and low roar was released from grandmaster Yan’s mouth, immediately, that powerful Mental Energy gushed towards the tightly shut Symbol Master Tower stone entrance. Then, it turned into a glowing symbol that engraved itself into a groove on the stone door.

“Rumble!”

As the symbol fit itself with the groove, the entire Symbol Master Tower began to tremble. The tightly shut stone door began to slowly crack open. Immediately, an extremely formidable Mental Energy undulation spread out from behind the stone door, causing all the Symbol Masters nearby to be jolted back.

“Such a powerful Mental Energy pressure!”

When that Mental Energy undulation gushed forth, Lin Dong was also alarmed as he felt a peculiar type of pressure emit from the Symbol Master Tower. Under that pressure, he felt as if his

body was now much heavier.

Lin Dong was okay. As for some other weaker ones, their faces immediately turned flustered as they hurriedly retreated.

“As expected of the Symbol Master Tower...” Han Yun somewhat greedily stared at the Symbol Master Tower that was opening up. If his Sky Fire City could obtain it, in ten years, they would definitely surpass Tiandu City’s Symbol Master Guild!

“The Symbol Master Tower is open. Let the Tower Battle begin!”

Grandmaster Yan stared at the Symbol Master Tower before turning to look at Lin Dong and Zi Yue as he deeply echoed out.

When Grandmaster Yan’s words echoed out, just like an explosion, the eyes of every Symbol Master in the place turned feverish as they all stared fervently at the Symbol Master Tower. Eventually, one of them roared out loud as he immediately dashed towards the Symbol Master Tower.

With someone taking the lead, Symbol Masters from both factions immediately took action as well. The inner sanctum of the Symbol Master Tower had extremely beneficial tempering and purifying effects on one’s Mental Energy. Even if one could not attain a good result in the Tower Battle, hanging around inside would be nonetheless extremely beneficial.

“Zhou Tong, Liu Long, it’s time for the two of you to go.” When

he saw this sight, Han Yun smiled in an indifferent manner. His gaze similarly swept across Zi Yue and Lin Dong. Of course, most of his attention was on Zi Yue.

“Among Yan City’s Symbol Masters, only Zi Yue is somewhat capable. The rest of them are mere ordinary folk. For this battle, as long as you guys take care of her, our Sky Fire City will definitely win.”

“Master Han, Lin Dong is fairly skilled as well. He was the one who snatched away my Mysterious Ice Swords.” Cao Zhu gnashed his teeth as he said.

“Lin Dong? A nameless younger generation member. With regards to the Mysterious Ice Swords... when you enter the Symbol Master Tower, take care of it yourself.” Han Yun’s face was calm as he replied.

“Yes!”

After hearing these words, Cao Zhu somewhat excitedly nodded his head. To one side, a cold glint also flashed across Liu Long’s eyes.

“Let’s go.”

Beside Han Yun, Zhou Tong, who had yet to speak a single word, finally opened his mouth. When they saw him speak, Liu Long and Cao Zhu both nodded their head.

“Zhou Tong, it all depends on you this time.” Han Yun softly said.

Zhou Tong calmly nodded his head. As his the top of foot tapped off the ground, his body floated forth and flew directly into the Symbol Master Tower. Behind him, Liu Long and Cao Zhu swiftly followed. Just before he entered the tower, Cao Zhu turned his head as he cast a malicious and provoking look at Lin Dong.

“We should get moving as well.”

When she saw that Sky Fire City Symbol Masters had all entered the Symbol Master Tower, Zi Yue also opened her mouth to speak. Swiftly, she turned into a purple shadow as she quickly dashed into the tower.

Lin Dong stared at that towering Symbol Master Tower as an excited expression flashed across his face. He was extremely curious to find out, based on his current strength, just which floor would he manage to advance to?

Lin Dong did not loiter outside for long. When he saw Zi Yue’s alluring shadow disappear into the tower, he immediately took off, swiftly dashing towards the Symbol Master Tower.

“Lin Dong, we are depending on you this time. Be extra careful!”

Just before Lin Dong entered the Symbol Master Tower, an

extremely soft voice stealthily crept into his ears. That was grandmaster Yan's voice.

Lin Dong lightly nodded his head, however, his body did not slow down. Under the watchful gazes of grandmaster Yan and the rest, he was just like a swaying leaf as he floated into the tower.

“Phew...”

When he saw Lin Dong's figure disappear, Yan Xuan gently sighed. Right now, he could only await the final results...

Chapter 136: The Fifth Level

The instant Lin Dong stepped through the entrance, an extremely heavy Mental Energy pressure assaulted him. In a split moment, it wrapped around him, quickly causing his body to sink slightly downwards.

Lin Dong's foot landed on the ground as he lifted his head to gaze at the first level of the Symbol Master Tower. The interior of the tower was about half the size of the plaza, however, the place was clearly overcrowded today.

In the air of the tower, strong Mental Energy undulations seemed to warp and take shape with substance. It felt as if one's body was within a Mental Energy sea, causing one to feel full of reverence.

There was extremely many people in the first level, however, after most of them entered, they immediately sat down as they dripped with sweat. Evidently, they were somewhat unable to bear with the Mental Energy pressure here.

As Lin Dong gazed at the bustling first level, he helplessly shook his head before quickly looking around. He was unable to find Zhou Tong, Zi Yue and the rest, while some of the Symbol Masters who were able to endure the Mental Energy pressure of the first level were currently dashing towards the center of the tower, their faces full of excitement. The passageway to the second level was located there.

Yet, Lin Dong did not urgently try to catch up right away.

Instead, he gently closed his eyes and felt the invisible undulations that washed at him from all directions.

Such an undulation was also a type of Mental Energy, it was just terrifyingly pure. These Mental Energy were akin to light rays, without missing a spot, they swept across the entire space within the tower. Thus, everyone here was embraced within the undulation.

Lin Dong allowed that undulation to sweep across his body. After a while, he found to his amazement that those undulations actually penetrated through his body and directly appeared inside the Niwan Palace in his mind!

This special undulation swept through the Niwan Palace and in passing, also swept over the two Destiny Soul Symbols within.

“Buzz!”

In the instance when the undulation swept across the two Destiny Soul Symbols, Lin Dong clearly felt a slight vibration from the Soul Symbols as they shined a little brighter. It felt as if some of the impurities that adhered to the Soul Symbol had been quietly cleansed!

Although there was no intense feeling of strengthening, Lin Dong clearly knew that his Destiny Soul Symbol had become a little more condensed...

“This should be the purifying effect of the Symbol Master Tower right? It is indeed mystical!” Lin Dong’s eyes once again opened, revealing the thick astonishment within.

“However, the cleansing effect of the first level is too weak, there seems to be no notable effect.”

At these thoughts, Lin Dong’s gaze turned towards the passageway to the second level. No longer hesitating, the top of his foot tapped off the ground as he rushed over. His speed drew the envy of many others, even taking a step here was difficult for them, yet, Lin Dong was able to run about freely. The disparity between them was truly a little large.

The space within the tower was not so vast that you could not see the end, thus, after about half a minute, Lin Dong appeared next to the first staircase. Blocking the staircase, was a layer of Mental Energy wall.

Vigorous Mental Energy gushed out from Lin Dong’s Niwan Palace and wrapped around his entire body before he stepped forward. Under numerous envious gazes, he smoothly advanced to the second level.

There were less people on the second level of the Symbol Master Tower, but it could still be considered rather lively. Lin Dong merely had a quick look around before making a beeline for the third level.

Given Lin Dong’s Mental Energy, the fourth level of the Symbol

Master Tower did not hinder him the least bit. Thus, after about ten minutes, he successfully and easily advanced to the fourth level.

On the fourth level, the space inside the tower immediately turned rather empty. There were only a tiny portion of Symbol Masters who had climbed to this level. After probing the Mental Energy wall that obstructed the way to the fifth level, they could only give up and chose to stay here and accept the purifying effect of the Symbol Master Tower. No matter what, the purifying power here was already several times stronger than the lower three levels.

“To be able to endure this Mental Energy pressure, those that have ascended to the fourth level have likely already advanced to the second seal Symbol Master or are almost there. These guys can be considered as the elite of the two cities...”

Lin Dong took a look at the area. The Symbol Masters from Yan City and Sky Fire City were very distinctly seated on two sides, it seemed as if the atmosphere between them was extremely tense.

Lin Dong’s sudden arrival caused both sides to be started for a while. Their gazes hastily shot towards him and after they saw his appearance, the responses of both sides were as different as black and white.

The Symbol Masters from Yan City obviously had a very strong impression of the person who had defeated Cao Zhu two days earlier. Immediately, they heaved a sigh of relief. In contrast, the Symbol Masters from the Sky Fire City side grew nervous as their

Mental Energy quietly gushed out.

Lin Dong shot a glance at them and found that out of eight of the Symbol Masters from Yan City, three of them had very chaotic Mental Energy undulations. From their complexions, they were clearly injured.

Towards this situation, Lin Dong was rather calm. He long knew that the Tower Battle would not be too peaceful, the chances of either side making a move was very large. From the looks of it, the two sides seemed to have already exchanged blows.

Yet, though this was so, Lin Dong did not have any plans to stop and help out. Instead, he walked towards the passageway to the fifth level.

After seeing his action, a trace of disappointment could be clearly seen within the eyes of the Symbol Masters of Yan City. By contrast, the Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City were secretly celebrating.

Under the gazes of both sides, Lin Dong's footsteps paused before the Mental Energy wall that obstructed the way to the fifth level. Several were currently concentrated on his back, if one was able to reach the fourth level, one would already be considered an elite in the two cities. Then if one was able to ascend to the fifth level, one would practically be at the pinnacle among the younger generation. All of the people here had already tried, yet none of them were able to proceed.

Lin Dong ignored their gazes as Mental Energy wrapped around his body. Just as he was able to step through, a voice sounded out from behind him: “Brother Lin Dong, previously, Cao Zhu and Liu Long have already entered the fifth level. If you go up, be sure to be careful!”

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong was stunned. He turned his head to find that the one who had warned him, was one of the three Yan City Symbol Masters who looked injured.

Gazing at the pale yet rather earnest expression on that Symbol Master, Lin Dong was silent for a moment. The foot which was about to step forward suddenly moved back as he spoke: “What is your name? How did all of you get injured?”

Lin Dong was one who would repay his debts many fold. If no one had warned him, he would not have hesitated as he advanced to the fifth level. As for whether these people would be driven out by those from Sky Fire City, he did not care. But since someone had actually spoken to warn him, this step was no longer as good an idea as before.

After hearing Lin Dong’s words, the Symbol Masters from Yan City were stunned. Soon after, joy appeared on their faces. The one who had spoken previously hesitated for a moment before replying: “I am known as Li Hu. Our injuries were caused by Cao Zhu and Liu Long.”

Lin Dong’s gaze slightly flickered and he quickly understood. There were eight people on the Yan City side while there were coincidentally also eight on Sky Fire City’s side. Cao Zhu and Liu

Long had injured three people to break the balance between the two groups. This way, even if the two of them were to leave, the Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City would be able to easily take care of Yan City's Symbol Masters.

“Good method.”

Lin Dong softly chuckled as he turned his head to smile at the Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City.

“Lin Dong, what are you planning?” After seeing Lin Dong's gaze, the expressions on the Sky Fire City Symbol Masters rapidly changed as they shouted out in a stern voice.

“Those of you who are not injured, obstruct a few of them.” Lin Dong ignored them as he lifted his palm and three icy sword shadows flew out from his Qiankun bag.

“Roger!”

Upon seeing that Lin Dong actually planned to attack, the eight Symbol Masters from Yan City celebrated as the five uninjured ones immediately replied before straightaway moving to engage the Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City.

The battle was not last for long. With Lin Dong's current strength, plus the three 'Mysterious Ice Swords', dealing with some Symbol Masters who had only just reached the second seal or was close to it was extremely easy.

Thus, in about ten minutes, five of the Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City had been seriously injured by Lin Dong. When the cold Qi entered their bodies, their complexions turned green.

As he gazed at the last three resisting Sky Fire City Symbol Masters, Lin Dong beckoned with his hand and withdrew the three 'Mysterious Ice Swords' which were circling above their heads. He then casually said: "I'll let you guys settle the rest."

Five of the eight Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City had been heavily injured by Lin Dong. There remained only three with the capability to fight. In contrast, there were a total of five able members on Yan City's side. The original situation had been immediately reversed!

"Many thanks to brother Lin Dong!"

Upon seeing Lin Dong keep his swords, the eight Yan City Symbol Masters hastily thanked him in a respectful tone. This situation was basically completely under their control.

"You should thank brother Li Hu..."

Lin Dong's finger flicked as three elixir pills with Mental Energy recovery properties fell into the trio's hands. Without lingering any further, he turned and straightaway stepped through the Mental Energy wall that blocked the passage to the fifth floor as his figure swiftly disappeared.

After seeing Lin Dong successfully enter the fifth level, admiration filled the eight Symbol Masters' eyes. Soon after, their gazes turned as they maliciously looked towards the Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City. Previously, they were ridiculed and mocked, now, it was time to return their debts.

Upon seeing their gazes, the complexions of eight Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City turned deathly white. They never imagined that the previous situation would now fall upon them...

While the battle on the fourth level raged on, Lin Dong once again successfully stepped into the fifth level of the Symbol Master Tower.

When he appeared at the fifth level, his knees slightly bent. The Mental Energy pressure here had practically multiplied.

“Phew...”

As he straightened his back, Lin Dong deeply exhaled, with heavy steps, he straightaway headed towards the passageway to the sixth level. This fifth level was not where he wanted to stay.

Heavy footsteps echoed around the empty tower. After ten minutes, Lin Dong once again saw the passageway to the sixth level, however, at the same time, he also saw two figures seated before the passageway.

Cao Zhu and Liu Long.

Currently, the duo were coldly staring at Lin Dong who had appeared in their line of sight. Cao Zhu's fist creaked as it clenched tightly.

Liu Long was all smiles as he stared at Lin Dong, the former's soft voice echoing about the empty space.

“Brother Lin Dong, I have warned you before. The Tower Battle is dangerous and you should be extra careful.”

Chapter 137: Robbery

In the empty space on the fifth level of the Symbol Master Tower, Lin Dong wore a calm expression as he gazed at the two who sat before the passageway to the sixth level, Liu Long and Cao Zhu. He long foresaw that this duo would not so easily let the matter rest.

“Brat, since you’ve chosen to do this the hard way, don’t blame us!” Cao Zhu sneered as he gazed at Lin Dong while a complacent look flitted across the former’s eyes. Today, Cao Zhu would finally be able to regain his pride.

Lin Dong shot a glance at Cao Zhu and Liu Long. Of the two, Liu Long was clearly the strongest, yet, he had still yet to reach the third seal Symbol Master stage. All in all, it should not be unmanageable.

“Heh heh, brother Lin Dong, the two of us don’t plan on making things overly difficult for you. As long as you return the ‘Mysterious Ice Swords’ to junior Cao Zhu, and compensate him with twenty thousand Yang Yuan Stones before leaving the Symbol Master Tower, the two of us will definitely let you go peacefully.” Liu Long smiled as he spoke.

After hearing Liu Long’s terms, Lin Dong also smiled as he replied: “Such a huge appetite, what will happen if I don’t give them back?”

“Sigh, then we’ll just have to destroy you here.” Liu Long sighed

as he said.

“You can take one’s life here?” Lin Dong was seemingly astonished as he questioned.

“Although we are unable to take your life due to the rules, breaking your arms and legs is still permitted.” Liu Long lightly chuckled.

“Many thanks for informing me.”

Lin Dong’s expression turned solemn before he continued: “Since that is so, the two of you are invited to come and break my arms and legs.”

“Bastard, since you’re looking for death, this one will grant it!”

Upon seeing Lin Dong’s mannerism, Cao Zhu realised that the former was teasing them. Immediately, he furiously cursed out as several cold lights burst out from his sleeves and darted towards Lin Dong like lightning.

“Clang clang clang!”

Lin Dong’s body did not move as three Mysterious Ice Swords danced before him like three silver snakes and directly reflected the sharp and cold lights.

“Since you are so obstinate, don’t blame the two of us for being merciless!” Liu Long’s gaze darkened, with a wave of his hand, a fiery-red sword flew out from his Qiankun bag.

When the fiery-red sword appeared, a blazing aura filled the air. From its radiance, one could tell that it was clearly no ordinary item.

Lin Dong curiously took a look at the fiery-red longsword. Some peculiar symbols were carved on its surface, with a single look, one could tell that it was forged by a grandmaster level expert.

“These guys, as expected of those from Sky Fire City. Each and everyone of them is so wealthy.” Lin Dong was somewhat envious in his heart. His previous weapons were only a few Shattered Yuan Shrapnel made from Mysterious Shattering Yuan Metal. Compared to these guys weapons, they were a little shameful.

While Lin Dong was inwardly sighing, Liu Long and Cao Zhu had already stood up. Vigorous Mental Energy undulations gushed out from within the two’s bodies. Both of them had the potential to advance to the third seal Symbol Master stage, now that they had joined hands today, their power was even stronger than that of the eight Symbol Masters from Sky Fire City previously.

“Buzz!”

Cao Zhu’s fists clenched as vigorous Mental Energy swiftly gathered at his fists. In the blink of an eye, it condensed into two rapidly spinning Mental Energy disks. The sharp and round edges

emitted a buzzing sound as they spun.

“Go!”

The duo were clearly very coordinated, after exchanging a glance, the fiery-red longsword and the sharp Mental Energy disks that floated in mid-air took two separate paths as they swiftly attacked Lin Dong.

“Clang!”

As he gazed at the duo’s attack, Lin Dong’s finger flicked and three Mysterious Ice Swords shot out. Two of them split off to obstruct the fiery-red longsword, the swords flipped and turned in the air as sparks splashed off.

The other Mysterious Ice Sword went to receive Cao Zhu’s Mental Energy disks. For a time, sparks violently flew in mid-air as clear ‘clang clang’ sounds constantly echoed out.

This object manipulation duel mainly depended on the strength of each party’s Mental Energy. It was akin to two people chopping at each other with broadswords while getting rid of their sword techniques, an exchange solely based on each one’s raw power.

“Clang clang!”

Swords flipped and flew, as the exchange continued, a serious expression surfaced on Liu Long’s face. He was able to sense that

every time he clashed with the Mysterious Ice Swords, the huge resulting force would disperse a little of the Mental Energy he had attached to his Ever-Flame sword. Evidently, Lin Dong's Mental Energy was even stronger than his own.

Most importantly, Lin Dong was currently facing both of them at once, yet, he still managed to achieve the upper hand against Liu Long even with his Mental Energy split.

“No wonder even Cao Zhu lost to this person, he is indeed capable.”

At this time, Liu Long finally felt a trace of unease, however, since they had already come to blows, it was pointless for him to regret. Immediately, a cold glint flashed across his eyes.

“Cao Zhu, combine our Mental Energy!”

Liu Long did not plan to prolong the fight, with a flick of his mind, the Ever-Flame Sword broke through the two Mysterious Ice Swords and once again floated before him.

After hearing Liu Long's shout, Cao Zhu's eyes darkened as he solemnly nodded his head. His hands moved to form a seal as portions of vigorous Mental Energy gushed out before finally pouring endlessly into the Ever-Flame Sword before them.

While Cao Zhu was infusing his Mental Energy, Liu Long likewise did not stay idle as waves of Mental Energy swiftly flew into the

Ever-Flame Sword.

“Buzz buzz!”

As the duo frantically poured in their Mental Energy, a glaring red light exploded out from the Ever-Flame Sword while an intimidating aura spread out in the air.

“Ever-Flame Sword, chop!”

Liu Long’s expression was dark as he shouted out. The Ever-Flame Sword instantly transformed into a blazing sword image that was several feet long. It tore through the air bringing with it a red-hot sword Qi as it ruthlessly chopped down towards Lin Dong.

Lin Dong was shocked by that exceptionally formidable sword aura, he never expected that this duo had such a deep connection with each other. Immediately, he waved his palm as the three Mysterious Ice Swords tangled together like three white snakes before starting to spin, expelling a potent cold Qi as they heavily slammed into the blazing sword image.

“Chi!”

Fire and ice interweaved was waves of ‘chi chi’ sounds burst forth. However, Liu Long and Cao Zhu clearly had the upper hand in this attack, thus, the light from the three Mysterious Ice Swords quickly became dimmer as the two powers clashed.

“Chop!”

After seeing this scene, Liu Long and Cao Zhu were delighted. Their arms ferociously waved as the blazing sword image forcefully tore apart the three Mysterious Ice Swords’ defence as it chopped towards Lin Dong’s head.

Lin Dong lifted his head, the blazing sword image reflected in his eyes growing larger and larger. Yet, he did not dodge as expected, instead, he stretched forth his right palm as vigorous Mental Energy formed layer after layer on it.

“Courting death!”

Upon seeing Lin Dong’s action, both Liu Long and Cao Zhu immediately sneered. This sword would crush even a huge rock to pieces, yet Lin Dong actually dared to receive it with the flesh of his palm.

“Chi!”

In a flash, the blazing sword image chopped down on Lin Dong’s palm. The layers of Mental Energy on it were quickly melted by the red-hot and formidable sword Qi. However, just as the all the Mental Energy was on the verge of being dissipated, a strange suction force abruptly exploded from the center of Lin Dong’s palm.

“Buzz buzz!”

Under that suction force, the duo's Mental Energy which covered the Ever-Flame Sword were directly ripped from the sword before finally tunnelling into Lin Dong's palm.

As the Mental Energy was absorbed by Lin Dong, the blazing light from the Ever-Flame Sword instantly dimmed and the formidable sword Qi also dissipated completely...

“How is this possible!?”

After seeing the originally victory blow mysteriously dissolve in such a way, astonishment surfaced in Liu Long's and Cao Zhu's eyes.

Lin Dong gave the shocked duo a small smile as his hand extended and grabbed the Ever-Flame Sword under Liu Long's furious gaze. Vigorous Yuan Power exploded out from Lin Dong's body as the tip of his foot tapped off the ground and dashed towards the duo.

“Quick, retreat!”

Upon seeing Lin Dong snatch up the Ever-Flame Sword and rush towards them, Liu Long's and Cao Zhu's scalps turned numb. They never imagined that even their strongest move would be unable to do any damage to Lin Dong. Immediately, they hastily withdrew in panic.

The duo's Mental Energy was still worth mentioning, however, their Yuan Power was completely outclassed by the initial Yuan Dan stage Lin Dong. Therefore, just as the duo moved to escape, Lin Dong's figure had already appeared in front of them. Without waiting, the Ever-Flame Sword in his hand cut out two formidable sword flashes which stabbed towards the duo as quick as lightning.

With the formidable, red-hot sword flashes about to hit their bodies, Liu Long and Cao Zhu were so startled that their souls were about to depart from their bodies. The move from before had already used up a lot of their Mental Energy, plus, they still needed resist the Mental Energy pressure of the fifth level. Thus, the duo could only draw the Yuan Power from within their bodies to form some defence before them.

Yet, this kind of defence was undoubtedly just a thin sheet of paper to Lin Dong. The sword flashes struck as the seemingly vigorous Yuan Power defence was directly torn to pieces. The remaining sword flash swept past and directly cut off a few of the duo's fingers.

“Ah!”

A miserable shriek sounded out as the cut fingers flew up in the air.

Liu Long and Cao Zhu were deathly white as they hugged their bleeding hands. At this time, they were no longer able to endure the Mental Energy pressure and fell to the ground on their butts. However, without waiting for them to howl out, a blazing longsword stopped at their necks.

“Lin Dong, if you kill us, Sky Fire City’s Symbol Master Guild will not let you off!”

Though their howls had stopped, Liu Long and Cao Zhu gazed at the sharp longsword before them in terror as a voice that tried to sound strong spoke.

Lin Dong slightly chuckled as he said: “Don’t worry, I will not kill you...”

After hearing these words, Liu Long and Cao Zhu quietly sighed in relief. Yet, Lin Dong’s next words caused the duo’s complexions to once again turn deathly white.

“However, if you want to buy your lives, you’ll have to pay up. I’ll give the both of you a fair price: fifty thousand Yang Yuan Stones per person, how does that sound?”

Chapter 138: Chase

“Fifty thousand Yang Yuan Stones per person...”

After hearing the words that had been uttered from Lin Dong’s mouth, though they clearly knew that their lives were in Lin Dong’s hands, Cao Zhu still could not help but muster his courage and snarl: “Fifty thousand Yang Yuan Stones? Why don’t you go rob somebody?”

“Am I not doing so now?” Lin Dong lightly smiled as he waved the Ever-Flame Sword in his hand. The sharp blade brought a trace of red-hot energy with it as it slowly neared the duo’s throats.

“Stop! Stop!”

As they gazed at the blade that slowly grew larger in their eyes, Liu Long could no longer endure as he hastily cried out. After seeing that Lin Dong’s blade had stopped, Liu Long forced a smile as he said: “Brother Lin Dong, fifty thousand Yang Yuan Stones is truly too much, I’m afraid that we can’t afford it.”

“Your life or your Yang Yuan Stones, the choice is yours.”

Lin Dong had a smile on his face as he declared. The smile looked rather friendly, yet, in Liu Long’s and Cao Zhu’s eyes, it looked more like the smile of a demon. Only now did Liu Long finally understand how stupid it was for the two of them to obstruct his way and try to take revenge. This person before them possessed strength that was practically comparable to senior Zhuo Tong.

“I don’t have much time, I still need to ascend the tower. If the both of you cannot decide, then, I’ll have to help you guys make a decision right?” Lin Dong’s finger lightly tapped on the Ever-Flame Sword in his hand as he chuckled.

“Alright, I’ll give it to you!”

When he saw the a slight trace of impatience on Lin Dong’s face, Liu Long finally no longer dared to say anything else as he firmly clenched his teeth and retrieved a Qiankun bag before throwing it towards Lin Dong.

Lin Dong received it and checked the contents before smiling as he nodded his head. His gaze then turned towards Cao Zhu, who had turned so deathly pale it was as if both his parents had died, and gently asked: “What about you?”

“Everything I have only adds up to forty thousand Yang Yuan Stones.”

Cao Zhu gritted his teeth as he spoke, before seeing Lin Dong reach out his hand: “Give it.”

The corners of his mouth twitched for a moment and Cao Zhu could only bleed inside as he took out a Qiankun bag before throwing it onto Lin Dong’s hand.

“Haha, many thanks for your presents.”

As he kept the two Qiankun bags, the smile on Lin Dong's face became much brighter. He swung the Ever-Flame Sword in his hand under Liu Long's anxious eyes while chuckling: "This sword is not bad, I'll be keeping it."

After saying this, without the slightest trace of politeness, Lin Dong once again kept the Ever-Flame Sword into his Qiankun bag. He clasped his hands together towards the two sorry figures on the ground as he grinned: "Many thanks to the two of you, you're welcome to come again next time."

"Urk."

Upon hearing this, the originally anxious and highly stressed duo immediately vomited a mouthful of blood as the view before their eyes started to turn a little black. This time, they had already been milked dry of all their belongings, if they were to come again, wouldn't even their blood and skin be harvested?

Having put away his Qiankun bag, Lin Dong no longer took notice of the duo as he straightaway stepped towards the Mental Energy wall that obstructed the passageway to the sixth level.

The Mental Energy wall that blocked the sixth level was quite strong, even Liu Long and Cao Zhu were unable to cross. It was said that in the previous Tower Battle, the best result the Sky Fire City members had achieved was the sixth level, while the Yan City side had stopped at the fifth level.

Lin Dong stood before the Mental Energy wall as Mental Energy slowly wrapped around his entire body. After which, under the gazes of Liu Long and Cao Zhu, he stepped forward.

When Lin Dong's body made contact with the wave-like Mental Energy wall, it slightly trembled as ripples spread out on its surface, while his body slowly moved through until it disappeared.

“He entered?!”

As they stared at Lin Dong's disappearing figure, Liu Long's and Cao Zhu's expressions changed. An aghast expression filled their faces, during this Tower Battle, only two people had successfully entered the sixth level: Zhou Tong from Sky Fire City and Zi Yue from Yan City. Yet, from the looks of it, it seems like this Lin Dong had also entered the sixth level.

“Senior Liu Long, what do we do now?” Cao Zhu's had a bitter and astringent look on his face. This time, their losses were truly too great.

“What else can we do? Let's stay here for as long as possible.” Liu Long spoke as he hatefully shot a glance at Cao Zhu.

“Are we letting Lin Dong get away with those Yang Yuan Stones?” Cao Zhu was silent for a moment before he once again said in an extremely unresigned tone.

“What else can you do? That brat's strength is likely comparable

to senior Zhou Tong. Even both of us combined together were not his match. If it were not for the fact that no one was allowed to take another's life in the Tower Battle, that guy would definitely have finished both of us off just now. If you still want to court death, don't drag me with you!" Liu Long shouted in anger. When he recalled today's end result, he was filled with rage. If he knew this beforehand, he would not have been tempted by Cao Zhu's money. Such a great outcome, not only did he obtain nothing, he had even been forced to cough up all his assets.

Upon seeing the furious Liu Long, Cao Zhu gulped and no longer dared to speak any further. He could only wallow in despair like a beaten eggplant...

...

On the space outside the Symbol Master Tower, grandmaster Yan and the rest were all staring unblinkingly at the tall ash-colored tower. Currently, the Symbol Master Tower was emitting brilliant rays of light, if one inspected this light, one would find that it was formed by countless specks.

These specks of light gradually became dimmer from bottom to top. At the seventh level, none of the specks could be found, while there were two specks of light at the sixth level. The glow of these two specks of light were especially bright.

"Looks like Zi Yue and Zhou Tong have both entered the sixth level..." As they gazed at the two specks of light on the sixth level, a middle-aged Symbol Master at grandmaster Yan's side spoke. From his words, it seemed like these specks of light represented the

number of people.

“Looks like victory or defeat will depend on the both of them.” Another middle-aged Symbol Master also opened his mouth to speak. In the previous Tower Battle, the best result of the young Symbol Masters from Yan City was only the fifth level. This time, they could be considered to have improved.

After grandmaster Yan heard this, he did not speak. His gaze paused for a moment at the fifth level, he believed that Lin Dong would definitely be able to enter the sixth level with his strength, yet, why had he not caught up till now?

“Heh heh, Yan Xuan, looks like your Yan City has improved quite a bit from last year, it looks like whoever manages to enter the seventh level will be the victor.” Han Yun from Sky Fire City chose this moment to speak up.

Grandmaster Yan shot a glance at Han Yun, just as the former was about to reply, a cry of alarm suddenly sounded out from the side: “There is another person who entered the sixth level? Who is it?”

This alarmed cry caused grandmaster Yan to hastily turn his head. Han Yun was likewise rather shocked as his gaze turned towards the sixth level. Sure enough, they found that another speck of light had actually appeared there.

“Who is that person? Among the Symbol Masters from our Sky Fire City this time, none of them have the power to enter the sixth

level right?” As they gazed at the additional speck of light, Han Yun’s eyebrows tightly furrowed together. If this person was not from his Sky Fire City, was he from Yan City?

At this thought, Han Yun shot a glance at grandmaster Yan from the corner of his eye. Sure enough, he saw a trace of joy flit across the latter’s face.

“That speck of light should be Lin Dong!” While Han Yuan’s eyebrows were still tightly knitted together, one of the middle-aged Symbol Masters from Yan City suddenly opened his mouth. Among the younger Symbol Masters in Yan City, only Lin Dong and Zi Yue could ascend to the sixth level.

“Lin Dong? That unremarkable looking brat?” Upon hearing these words, Han Yun’s eyes slightly narrowed. He had not realised that the brat who seemed to be a supporting actor beside Zi Yue actually possessed this kind of strength.

“Humph, it is useless even if you are able to enter the sixth level. My Sky Fire City is determined to obtain this Symbol Master Tower!”

Han Yun coldly snorted in his heart. From what he saw, there were no outstanding talents among the younger generation of Yan City’s Symbol Masters. Only Zi Yue might be considered half decent, yet, when compared to Zhou Tong, she was nothing. At that time, he would let Yan Xuan and the others know what a true genius was!

Compared to that kind of genius, Zi Yue and Lin Dong were merely fireflies under the moon!

...

In the empty sixth level of the Symbol Master Tower, heavy footsteps somewhat ear-piercingly echoed out.

Two figures were not separated by much distance as they both stepped forward with heavy steps, towards the center of the sixth level.

“Phew...”

A short distance not even a hundred steps long had already caused Zi Yue’s fragrant sweat to pour down like rain. The Mental Energy pressure surrounding her which pervaded the air was like a huge rock as it constantly tried to overwhelm her. But in the end, it was endured by this frosty cold girl as she gritted her teeth.

“That guy, does he not feel tired?” Zi Yue lifted her head as she gazed at a figure. This figure belonged to Zhou Tong from Sky Fire City, though the latter’s footsteps were likewise heavy, he seemed to progress at a constant pace. From start to end, his pace did not slow even under the Mental Energy pressure here.

“Like this, you cannot breakthrough the Mental Energy wall on the sixth level.” Within the empty Symbol Master Tower, Zhou Tong’s calm voice suddenly sounded out.

Zi Yue bit her red lips and did not reply. She continued to walk forward step by step, utilising her Mental Energy to the limit as she felt a dizzy sensation wash over her.

Through these heavy steps, the two figures finally came to a stop before the Mental Energy wall that blocked the passageway to the seventh level.

“Sorry, your Yan City will still lose this time.”

Zhou Tong gazed at the wave-like Mental Energy wall before him. He was able to sense the strong Mental Energy undulations within it. Soon after, he turned his head and indifferently smiled at Zi Yue.

“In your dreams!” Zi Yue’s expression remained cold as ice.

Zhou Tong chuckled. Among the young Symbol Masters of Yan City, only Zi Yue was somewhat able to face him directly. However, this was her limit.

“I’ll enter the seventh level first. If you have to ability, come.”

As his words sounded out, Zhou Tong directly stepped forward. The Mental Energy wall immediately started to squirm frantically as it emitted a terrifying Mental Energy undulation, as if it wanted to push him out. Yet, in the face of this pressure, Zhou Tong’s body maintained its slow speed as he stepped into the Mental Energy

wall before finally fading away...

“He succeeded...”

As she gazed at Zhou Tong’s disappearing figure, Zi Yue’s lily-white hands could not help but grasp tightly before she gritted her teeth and concentrated all of her Mental Energy around her body. Then, she also stepped towards the Mental Energy wall.

“Buzz!”

When Zi Yue’s body stepped into the Mental Energy wall, her complexion instantly turned pale. A terrifying Mental Energy undulation spread out as her body was blown back as if hit by a strong force. A mouthful of blood spat out from her mouth.

“Will we still end up losing...”

The dizziness in her mind became increasingly intense as Zi Yue stared at the Mental Energy wall which grew further and further away. Bitterness and helplessness was revealed on her frosty yet pretty face, she had truly done her best.

“Da!”

Just as Zi Yue prepared to close her eyes and completely give up, she suddenly felt a warm and gentle hand on her sleek, jade-like back as her figure which was flying backwards slowly landed on the ground.

This abrupt support caused Zi Yue to be stunned. Before she could regain her wits, a figure stepped past her and walked towards the Mental Energy wall obstructing the stairs to the seventh level.

“Leave everything else to me. Since I’ve been invited by grandmaster Yan, I should show a little effort. Else someone would call me useless.”

As she gazed at the back of the one who had stepped past her, she once again heard a soft chuckle echo in her ear. Zi Yue’s fine figure immediately trembled a little as she stared in shock at the figure. She did not expect that Lin Dong would actually also be able to enter the sixth level!

Chapter 139: Entering the Seventh Level

Lin Dong's appearance caused Zi Yue to be shocked for quite a while before she gradually regained her wits. She gazed at Lin Dong, who was walking step by step towards the Mental Energy wall, which was denying passage to the seventh level, and she could not help but open her mouth to speak: "The seventh level is not so easy to enter, you should know the extent of your capabilities!"

Since the start, Zi Yue had always believed that Lin Dong's ability was at most similar to her. Since she had just suffered greatly under that Mental Energy wall, in her opinion, even if Lin Dong was able to reach this level, he would only end up like her in the end.

"Oh."

In response to Zi Yue's warning, Lin Dong calmly acknowledged her, before his footsteps paused in front of the Mental Energy wall. His eyes slowly closed as the two Destiny Soul Symbols within his Niwan Palace started to tremble violently. Portions of vigorous Mental Energy gushed out endlessly before finally condensing on the surface of Lin Dong's body.

After finishing this, Lin Dong did not hesitate as he stepped forward. Under Zi Yue's nervous gaze, he stepped into that Mental Energy wall.

"Buzz buzz!"

As Lin Dong stepped forward, the Mental Energy wall violently shuddered as a strange buzzing sound once again echoed out, while a fierce resistance pushed against him from all directions, trying to catapult Lin Dong out.

“Humph!”

Faced with the pushing force of that Mental Energy wall, Lin Dong’s expression became a little serious. Soon after, under Zi Yue’s stunned gaze, he snorted as his body, which was slightly leaning back, once again straightened itself before he slowly proceeded forward into the Mental Energy wall at a slow-moving, yet steady as a mountain pace.

“Chi!”

As Lin Dong proceeded inch by inch, ripples formed on the surface of the Mental Energy wall. In the end, the ripples became increasingly violent as Lin Dong’s figure slowly disappeared under the undulations of the ripples.

“He succeeded...”

Zi Yue gazed at Lin Dong’s slowly disappearing back as an uncontrollable shock surfaced on her cold yet pretty face. She was somewhat absent-minded as she gazed at the empty space before the Mental Energy wall. It was a long time later before she finally recovered as she mumbled: “How is this possible...”

Since the beginning, she had always thought that though Lin Dong had some ability, it did not exceed her own. Thus, she had felt a little resentful when grandmaster Yan had suddenly introduced him. Yet, this way of thinking finally completely dissipated after she personally witnessed Lin Dong successfully enter the seventh level.

Only now did she understand that grandmaster Yan indeed had a reason for what he did. Lin Dong's ability was truly stronger than hers!

“This guy!”

As she faced the facts, no matter how cold and proud Zi Yue was, she had no choice but to admit that this realization caused her to feel a little disappointed. Moments later, she gradually recovered her clear-headedness as she softly sighed, before she promptly sat down. Since she was unable to enter the seventh level, she would cultivate here. As for the final outcome of this Tower Battle, it all hinged upon Lin Dong.

“I hope that you can surpass Zhou Tong...”

...

Outside the Symbol Master Tower, when Zhou Tong entered the seventh level, a chorus of cheers rang out across the vacant space. Yan Xuan and the Yan City Symbol Masters had twisted expressions on their faces, while joy was revealed on Han Yun's

face as he stroke his beard.

“Hehe, Yan Xuan, looks like the victor of this Tower Battle has already been decided.” Yun Han gazed towards grandmaster Yan while chuckling.

Upon hearing this, although the Symbol Masters from Yan City felt angry in their hearts, they could not dispute it. Over the past few years, this was the first time someone had advanced to the seventh level. If nothing unexpected happened this time, the possibility of their Yan City Symbol Master Guild losing was greater.

“Don’t celebrate too early.”

Grandmaster Yan coolly retorted before his gaze once again fixed itself onto the two specks of light on the sixth level. He knew that those two specks of light were Zi Yue and Lin Dong. As Zi Yue’s teacher, he clearly understood her capabilities, and he knew that it would be very difficult for her to enter the seventh level. Therefore, he could only place all of his hopes on Lin Dong...

“Lin Dong, everything truly depends on you now...”

Grandmaster Yan sighed in his heart. If they were defeated this time, the Symbol Master Tower would be moved to Sky Fire City. At that time, the prestige of their Yan City Symbol Master Guild would plummet.

As he gazed at grandmaster Yan's tightly furrowed eyebrows, the delight in Han Yun's eyes deepened. He was already able to imagine just how majestic it would be when he brought the Symbol Master Tower back to Sky Fire City.

“One of the specks of light on the sixth level has disappeared!”

While Han Yun felt pleased in his heart, a sudden cry rang out. This cry caused him to be shocked for a moment as his gaze was hastily cast towards the sixth level. Sure enough, he saw that out of the originally two specks of light, only one was left.

After witnessing that a speck of light had disappeared, Han Yun's first reaction was not to look towards the next level. Instead, his gaze turned to the fifth level. However, when he saw that the speck of light did not appear there, his expression rapidly changed. With a 'swish' sound, his line of sight was cast towards the seventh level. Dumbstruck, he stared at the seventh level as another speck of light slowly appeared!

“Another person has entered the seventh level!”

The appearance of this speck of light instantly drew a huge uproar among the crowd below the Symbol Master Tower. One by one, gazes turned towards the seventh level in disbelief. After all, they had evidently not expected that, besides Zhou Tong from Sky Fire City, there would actually be another person who was able to reach the seventh level.

“Who is that person? Is it Zi Yue?”

After the uproar, numerous whispers sounded out. Most of them guessed that it was Zi Yue. After all, she possessed quite a reputation among the younger generation Symbol Masters of Yan City.

“It is not Zi Yue. Zi Yue should not be able to enter the seventh level.” One of the third seal level middle-aged Symbol Masters muttered to himself for a while before declaring. They understood Zi Yue extremely well, and for one to enter the seventh level, one needed to possess at least the strength of a third seal Symbol Master. Although Zi Yue was already exceedingly close to this level, she was still unable to truly match up to a third seal Symbol Master.

In the sixth level, besides Zhou Tong, who had successfully advanced to the seventh level, there were only Zi Yue and Lin Dong. Since it was not Zi Yue, then...

“It’s Lin Dong?!”

The crowd looked at each other in dismay. Soon after, they gasped in a breath of cold air. They were not unfamiliar with this youngster who had recently caused a storm in Yan City. They knew that this youngster was not even twenty years of age, yet, he had successfully advanced to the initial Yuan Dan stage. This level of talent was rather shocking. However, what they had never expected was that not only did the latter achieve such an outstanding accomplishment in Yuan Power, even his Mental Energy cultivation...was terrifying to this extent.

“This kid is extraordinary!”

The crowd turned to look at each other as the same sentence simultaneously popped out.

“How could it possibly be him?” Han Yun likewise heard their words. When he realized that the person who had advanced to the seventh level was not Zi Yue, but rather that Lin Dong, who he had never valued, his eyelids began to twitch violently.

No matter how hard he tried, he did not understand how that young man standing beside Zi Yue like a supporting cast, could actually match up to Zhou Tong!

“Haha, Han Yun. This old man has already told you not to count your chicken before they hatch.” To one side, grandmaster Yan finally heaved a sigh of relief as he said with a smile.

“Humph, what is there to be happy about? Even if that kid can forcefully advance to the seventh level, it is likely a fluke. After a few days, he will not be able to withstand the Mental Energy pressure of the seventh floor!” Han Yun chuckled coldly.

Grandmaster Yan gently smiled, not bothering to argue as he stared at the two glowing dots on the seventh floor. Right now, the outcome of this match rested on Lin Dong and Zhou Tong. Based on his understanding of the two, this victory would likely be decided on the seventh floor. With regards to the eighth floor, based on their current strength, it would be quite a reach. Therefore, the match would likely be decided by who could endure

longer...

...

Symbol Master Tower, seventh floor.

Compared to the six floors below, the area here seemed slightly smaller. A terrifying Mental Energy undulation was so concentrated inside this level that it felt like a viscous fluid. Therefore, the Mental Energy pressure here was also amplified by several times.

“Dong!”

In the serene seventh floor, an extremely solid footstep sounded out. When one looked over, one would see that a figure was now striding forward at an extremely slow speed, like an old bull pulling a rickshaw.

His footsteps were extremely solid. That sensation felt as if he was carrying a mountain on his back. Every time he took a step, an extremely soft creaking sound echoed out from within his body. Meanwhile, sweat poured down his body like a flood, causing his clothes to become completely drenched.

This figure was Zhou Tong, who had advanced to seventh floor previously. He was the strongest younger generation member in Sky Fire City’s Symbol Master Guild. Furthermore, half a year ago, he had successfully advanced to the third seal Symbol Master

stage. Nonetheless, might of the Mental Energy exerted by the seventh floor caused him to feel an extreme amount of pressure. Every step that he took was like a massive battle.

“Yan City Symbol Masters are rather ordinary.”

Zhou Tong wiped the sweat off his face as a weak smile surfaced. As a legendary figure from Sky Fire City, even though he was ordinary looking, the pride in his heart would not lose out to others in the slightest. Therefore, for this trip to Yan City, his first objective was to help Sky Fire City win this Symbol Master Tower, while the second, was to discover if there were any extraordinary individuals in Yan City’s Symbol Master Guild. However, the final outcome caused him to be slightly disappointed, it seemed that no one was able to stop his march.

“Among the younger generation Symbol Masters in Tiandu province, perhaps I can only acknowledge that guy from Tiandu City.”

As he recalled the fellow that he had only encountered once before, Zhou Tong’s eyebrows furrowed slightly. Promptly, he shook his head and decided to forget about the fellow who caused him to feel a little pressured. Then, he lifted his head up as he stared that the Mental Energy barrier that stood a mere hundred steps away from him. However, this short distance was like a gulf that was impossible to cross.

“By now, the outcome should have already been decided right?”

Zhou Tong softly murmured to himself. Just as he finished speaking, his ears suddenly trembled as a slightly heavy footstep stealthily sounded out from behind him and entered his ears.

This sudden footstep caused Zhou Tong's pupils to shrink. After hesitating for a moment, he suddenly turned his head around, only to see a figure appearing before his eyes.

When he focused, that figure also lifted up his head. Plastered on that somewhat youthful young man's face, was sweat, as well as an unwavering determination.

"It's him... how is this possible?"

As he stared at the young man, who was slowly making his way over, little by little, a storm slowly brewed in Zhou Tong's heart...

Chapter 140: Willpower

While Zhou Tong was staring at Lin Dong, the latter also became aware of the former as he lifted his head to look back at Zhou Tong. A smile could not help but form on Lin Dong's sweat covered face as he said: "At long last, I've caught up."

"Are you Lin Dong?"

In the spacious and empty seventh level of the Symbol Master Tower, Zhou Tong stared at Lin Dong. It was a good while before the former opened his mouth and spoke.

Lin Dong chuckled as he clasped his hands together while his gaze swept across the most outstanding Symbol Master among the younger generation of Sky Fire City. The latter's appearance was far from Liu Long's level, yet, under that ordinary appearance, a talent that no one dared to look down on was hidden.

"This time, I've misjudged."

After getting over his initial shock, Zhou Tong's voice regained its calm. No matter what happened, he had complete faith in his own abilities and he believed that only a handful among the younger generation Symbol Masters in Tiandu province surpassed him. Though this Lin Dong before his eyes had somewhat exceeded his expectations, it had yet to reach a stage where he was willing to concede defeat.

"Brother Zhou Tong flatters me. This one had only managed to

get here through luck.” Lin Dong smiled as he said. He did not have any ill will towards Zhou Tong, after all, the two of them had only just met. Perhaps they might be competing against each other, but that was only because they came from different factions.

“Luck does not exist in the Symbol Master Tower, your strength is even greater than Miss Zi Yue’s.” Zhou Tong smiled in an indifferent manner. His voice paused for a moment before he continued: “However, in the Tower Battle this time, I must win this Symbol Master Tower for Sky Fire City.”

“I will also do my best to for Yan City to ensure that the Symbol Master Tower stays here.” Lin Dong lightly smiled, but his expression was especially earnest.

“If that is the case, let us both rely on our respective abilities. I hope that you will be able to exceed my expectations once again.” Zhou Tong casually smiled, before no longer paying any attention to Lin Dong, as he turned and mobilized all the Mental Energy in his Niwan Palace to resist the Mental Energy pressure which permeated through his every pore. With heavy footsteps, he slowly walked towards the center area of the seventh floor.

“Phew...”

When Zhou Tong moved once again, Lin Dong also deeply sighed in relief. The Mental Energy pressure of the seventh level was several times stronger than the sixth level. The Mental Energy here was already extremely viscous and walking through it was like walking through a swamp, causing one to feel that even breathing was difficult.

After taking a look at Zhou Tong's back, Lin Dong tightly pursed his lips. Although this kind of pressure was extremely difficult to bear, he was not one who was pampered and spoiled since young. An unwavering determination and stubbornness could be found within his bones. This point could be seen from how he was able to endure the trials of the Mind Millstones everyday. In fact, even the mysterious small marten had some lingering fear of that immense pain, yet, Lin Dong had managed to endure it day after day, and even gradually gotten used to it.

Others only thought that his Mental Energy grew very swiftly, but how could they know how much he had suffered for that kind of progress...

Vigorous Mental Energy endlessly gushed out from his Niwan Palace. Soon after, it layered itself around Lin Dong's body, while he also lifted his seemingly lead-filled legs with some difficulty as he slowly proceeded.

“Thud!”

The sounds of heavy footsteps reverberated across the empty space of the tower. Every time this sound rang out, a pool of sweat would also pour down.

When he heard the heavy footsteps that sounded out from behind, the corners of Zhou Tong's eyes slightly twitched for a moment. But, he did not turn his head and instead maintained his silence as he slowly moved forward step by step.

In the spacious seventh floor, two figures were silent. One was in front while the other was behind as they approached the center of the seventh level at an extremely slow but especially steady pace.

The duo's temperament were both fairly determined. Even under the heavy weight that caused the muscles all over their body to ache, they still resolutely gritted their teeth and firmly refused to stop.

The duo travelled this short distance of less than a hundred steps for almost half an hour...

“Thump!”

Within the silence, a low sound suddenly rang out. In the front, Zhou Tong had suddenly fell to his knees. His palms were pressed onto the floor to support his body as he gasped for breath as violently as a windmill.

At this time, three steps from Zhou Tong, one could already see the Mental Energy barrier to the eighth level. Yet, these three tiny steps were just as difficult as crossing the endless skies.

The nearer to the center, the greater the Mental Energy pressure. In particular, the pressure of these last three steps were several fold stronger than when just entering this level. Just as Zhou Tong had taken a tiny half step, his body was directly overwhelmed and forced down. From this, one could tell how terrifying this Mental Energy pressure was.

“Drip drip...”

Sweat formed into lines of water as they continuously poured down Zhou Tong’s face. He opened and closed his exceptionally dry mouth before gritting his teeth as he slowly stood up under the terrifying Mental Energy pressure and once again took a step forward.

“Bang!”

As Zhou Tong made this step, his body immediately sunk downwards a little. His knees were bent while his body constantly trembled. Evidently, he was trying his utmost best not to be forced down onto his knees again.

“The final two steps...”

As he stared at the Mental Energy wall that was so very close, a little helplessness surfaced within Zhou Tong’s heart.

“Boom!””

While Zhou Tong stared at the Mental Energy wall that was almost within reach, a heavy footstep sound echoed out from behind him. From the corner of his eye, he saw a figure dripping with sweat appearing a single step behind him.

“This guy...” When he saw that Lin Dong had actually managed to catch up step by step, Zhou Tong’s heart was in turmoil as he slightly turned his head. This was the first time he had finally acknowledged this young man.

“As expected of the Symbol Master Tower...such an overwhelming Mental Energy pressure.” As he stared at Zhou Tong, who was right beside him, Lin Dong’s voice was hoarse as he commented. After he finished speaking, he resolutely gritted his teeth and took another step forward.

“Creak!”

When Lin Dong took this step, his body likewise sunk slightly. Meanwhile, a faint noise emerged from within his body. It was as if even his bones were somewhat unable to bear the pressure.

As his foot landed, Lin Dong’s body began to tremble slightly. Then, as he tenaciously gritted his teeth, to Zhou Tong’s astonishment, Lin Dong defied the overwhelming Mental Energy pressure as he once again slowly straightened his body.

As he straightened his body, Lin Dong’s gaze fixed itself onto the Mental Energy wall, a determined look flashing in his eyes. Grandmaster Yan had mentioned that there was a Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill in the eighth level. Therefore, if he wanted to obtain it, he must ascend to the eighth floor!

“I am going to the eighth floor.”

When he heard the young man's coarse voice, Zhou Tong's pupils slightly shrank, before he slowly shook his head: "It's impossible!"

It was indeed impossible. These final two steps were already a problem for them. Furthermore, there was still that massive repelling force of the Mental Energy wall. Therefore, even though he wanted to charge to the eighth floor, reality told him that that based on their current strength, it was an impossible feat!

"Who knows until you've tried?"

Lin Dong smiled. Without further ado, he took another step forward!

"Thump!"

As he took a step forward, the ever present Mental Energy pressure suddenly rose dramatically, causing Lin Dong's body to almost instantaneously kneel down on the ground. When his knees landed on that solid floor, a clear and crisp sound rang out.

When he saw Lin Dong being thoroughly restrained by that Mental Energy pressure, Zhou Tong let out a bitter laugh. He did not mean to mock the former, rather, he understood that if he took this step too, he would likely encounter the same outcome.

"Forget about it, just give it up. In the following days, we will be competing on who can last here the longest." Zhou Tong was usually a silent individual that hardly talked, furthermore, this

person was his opponent. However, he was fairly impressed by Lin Dong's willpower.

“Haha, how can i give up so easily. I am going to the eighth floor.”

Lin Dong, who was being forced down on his knees by that overwhelming pressure, suddenly released a hoarse laugh. Then, under Zhou Tong's astonished gaze, his trembling body once again very slowly stood up.

“Creak crunch!”

When Lin Dong stood up, Zhou Tong could see that his skin had actually turned somewhat flushed. Drops of blood gathering near his pores, this was a sign that his body was unable to endure the heavy pressure.

“This fellow is completely insane...” When he saw Lin Dong's crazed actions, Zhou Tong involuntarily murmured to himself.

“Thump!”

However, just as he finished murmured, Lin Dong actually took another step forward. This time, the surging Mental Energy pressure directly caused his entire body to be flattened to the ground as trails of blood directly spurted out from his pores.

Lin Dong's body continuously trembled. Even his eyes were now

covered in bloody lines. He slowly lifted his head to stare at that Mental Energy wall that was so very close, the stubbornness in his eyes was extraordinarily terrifying.

Then, the expression on Zhou Tong changed as Lin Dong's trembling body once again attempted to stand.

“Chi!”

When Lin Dong slowly lifted his body off the ground and stood up, his shirt was immediately dyed red by blood. Drops of fresh blood were flowed off his shirt and formed puddle of blood at his feet.

“Stop it. Victory or defeat has yet to be decided. If you continue to press on, you will definitely lose!” As he stared at the dazzling bright red before him, Zhou Tong sucked in a deep breath as he said in a low voice. He could not figure out why this young man before him possessed this kind of willpower.

Instead of willpower, it might as well be called stupidity and pigheadedness. Right now, all that remained of the world in Lin Dong's eyes was Mental Energy wall in front of him. His actions seemed reckless but he possessed a mountain-like will. In martial arts cultivation, the most important thing was willpower!

“Buzz!”

As he slowly straightened his body, both of Lin Dong's ears

started to buzz as an extremely severe ache began to spread out inside his mind. Meanwhile, his vision began to turn blurry as well. This was a sign that he was reaching his limits.

“Buzz buzz!”

Lin Dong’s vision turned increasingly fuzzy. However, just as he was about to blackout, a peculiar buzzing sound echoed out from his Niwan Palace...

Inside his Niwan palace, faced with the overwhelming Mental Energy pressure, his two Destiny Soul Symbols suddenly began to distort. Promptly, they automatically turned into two Soul Symbol vortexes and slowly began to spin.

Just as these two Soul Symbol vortexes appeared, Lin Dong suddenly felt that the overwhelming Mental Energy pressure surrounding his body was suddenly swiftly being sucked into his Niwan Palace, before they were completely devoured by the two Soul Symbols!

This surprising change in his Destiny Soul Symbols greatly reduced the pressure on Lin Dong. Without the slightest hesitation, he immediately took a step forward. Then, under the shocked gaze of Zhou Tong, he finally passed into the Mental Energy wall!

“Buzz buzz!”

As Lin Dong stepped in, an extremely terrifying Mental Energy undulation immediately exploded forth from within the Mental Energy wall. This Mental Energy undulation directly exploded inside the seventh floor, causing Zhou Tong, who was nearby, to be completely blown away as he spit out a mouthful of fresh blood.

As he hideously landed on the ground, Zhou Tong did not bother with the internal injuries that he suffered as he quickly turned to look at that Mental Energy wall. Then, his eyes turned dull as he saw Lin Dong's body slowly disappear into the Mental Energy wall...

“He...has he really... done it?”

As he stared at Lin Dong's disappearing figure, even one as strong as Zhou Tong deeply sucked in a breath of cold air. His eyes were filled with disbelief and awe.

Just as Zhou Tong was completely stupefied at the sight of Lin Dong's disappearing figure, outside of the Symbol Master Tower, a frantic commotion had also erupted.

Chapter 141: Manifestation Symbol Array

Outside the Symbol Master Tower, when one of the two specks of light at the seventh level disappeared, the originally somewhat noisy space turned absolutely silent in an instant.

This strange silence lasted for a split moment before it was broken by a frantic clamouring.

“The speck of light disappeared!”

“Someone has entered the eighth floor!”

“How is this possible? Even third seal Symbol Masters would find it exceedingly difficult to enter, who could have done it?”

“Who is it? Zhou Tong or Lin Dong?”

“I think it should most likely be Zhou Tong...”

“Nonsense, Lin Dong does not lose out to that Zhou Tong...”

“.....”

As he heard the hubbub and quarrels that practically broke out in a split second, grandmaster Yan, who was originally seated on a stone chair, suddenly stood up. His gaze was rigidly fixed on the eighth level of the Symbol Master Tower. Now, there was indeed a

speck of light in the place which no one had stepped into for many years.

“Who is it? Could it really be Lin Dong?”

At this time, even with grandmaster Yan’s temperament, an uncontrollable nervousness and excitement surfaced in his eyes. He was well aware of how difficult it was to enter the eighth floor, according to his original expectations, although Lin Dong’s and Zhou Tong’s abilities were not weak, they should definitely be unable to advance to the eighth floor. Yet, the reality that appeared before his eyes told him that he had predicted wrongly!

However, at this moment, even he was unsure of who exactly had successfully charged into the eighth level. Would it be Lin Dong or Zhou Tong? No one knew exactly what had happened inside over this period of time...

Originally, they had thought victory would be determined perhaps only after a period of time. After all, the duo were both at the seventh level, since this was so, they needed to see who was able to endure longer. But, the most recent turn of events had directly shattered these thoughts.

According to the rules of the Tower Battle, no matter how long you stayed in a lower level, as long as someone was able to move to a higher level than you, even if he only stayed there for a few minutes, he would still be crowned the victor. And this was also why Lin Dong and Zhou Tong had intended to risk their lives. As long as one of them was able to ascend to the eighth floor, the outcome would be decided!

Yet, what caused grandmaster Yan the the rest to be puzzled about now was: who exactly had stepped into the eighth level.

If it was Zhou Tong, Yan City would have completely lost this time and the owner of the Symbol Master Tower would change. But, if it was Lin Dong, this Symbol Master Tower would belong to Yan City like before!

While grandmaster Yan worried, to one side, Han Yun's fists also tightly clenched within his sleeves. However, his expression was a little ugly. He knew Zhou Tong extremely well, if they said that the latter was able to endure at the seventh floor for some time, he would believe it firmly without any doubt, but, if they talked about entering the eighth floor, the chances of that was extremely extremely low.

Which is to say, the one who had successfully entered the eighth level was very likely that exceedingly unremarkable boy, Lin Dong!

At these thoughts, the corners of Han Yun's eyes involuntarily twitched. He had never expected that because of Lin Dong, an unforeseen event had now occurred and upset the victory that was originally in his grasp.

"It is only a guess, it might not turn out to be true. Maybe Zhou Tong suddenly broke through and by some chance entered the eighth level. That brat Lin Dong didn't look any capable, how could he possible enter the eighth level..."

At this time, Han Yun could only console himself in his heart. He did not know why, but, as he consoled himself, the unease in his heart grew increasingly stronger.

.....

While the heavens seemed to have overturned outside the Symbol Master Tower, as the main topic of their quarrels, Lin Dong was currently a little at loss.

The eighth floor of the Symbol Master Tower was slightly smaller than the floor below it. Although this area was not considered large, the Mental Energy pressure here was terrifying strong. However, what was unusual about this situation was that: the Mental Energy pressure that was enough to crush his life did not feel very strong to the current Lin Dong.

“Is this because of the Destiny Soul Symbol...”

Lin Dong considered for a while before he understood that it was most likely due to the two Destiny Soul Symbols within his Niwan Palace. Soon after, he gently closed his eyes as his mind sunk into the Niwan Palace. Sure enough, he found that the two Destiny Soul Symbols had already automatically transformed into two Soul Symbol vortexes.

What caused Lin Dong the greatest shock was that the Destiny Soul Symbols were actually gulping down the surrounding viscous-liquid-like Mental Energy pressure.

“This Soul Symbol is truly odd...”

In response to this situation, Lin Dong was stunned for a moment. He could only bitterly smile as he shook his head, he understood that the reason why he was able to charge through the Mental Energy barrier before, was due to the special power of the Soul Symbol. Or else, even if he was able to walk to the Mental Energy barrier, he would absolutely be unable to successfully pass through.

“I was rather reckless...” As he recalled the events of the past, Lin Dong, who had already recovered his level-headedness, could not help but feel a little frightened. If it were not for the change in the Destiny Soul Symbol at that final moment, he would definitely be grievously wounded now.

However, there was no other way. If he did not try to break through and Zhou Tong managed to charge in by some fluke chance, Yan City would have essentially lost this Tower Battle. Thus, it can be said that he was also forced to risk his life to that extent...

“I still need to find that so-called Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill first...” After letting out a bitter laugh, Lin Dong lifted his gaze. With the Destiny Soul Symbol protecting his body, he did not really need to fear the Mental Energy pressure that had threatened his life previously. Since this was so, he should first go and find the reward he had been promised.

The eighth floor was not large, and there were very few things within. Thus, after Lin Dong’s gaze swept one round around the

place, it stopped somewhere just ahead of his current position. There, a towering stone tablet stood.

Lin Dong slowly walked towards the stone tablet. Due to the Destiny Soul Symbol, walking was not as challenging as before, thus, he quickly appeared before the stone tablet.

The stone tablet was several feet tall there were not too many weird points about it. However, Lin Dong still sensed a minute Mental Energy undulation on the surface of the stone tablet.

As he stared at the stone tablet, Lin Dong hesitated for a while before gently closing his eyes and stretching out his finger to touch the stone tablet.

“Buzz!”

Just as Lin Dong’s finger touched the stone tablet, the Mental Energy undulation that clothed it immediately spread out. Soon after, it formed a large and mysterious pattern which orbited in mid-air. Within it, one could see some floating Mental Energy characters which faintly seemed like an array.

“Manifestation Symbol Array...”

Lin Dong’s gaze was glued onto the floating Mental Energy characters. Soon after, happiness surfaced in his eyes. Grandmaster Yan had not lied to him, there was indeed a Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill on the eighth level.

From the characters, one could tell that this Secret Spirit Skill was incomparable to the superficial Secret Spirit Skills he had obtained before.

Without making a single mistake, Lin Dong read the whole phrase before muttering to himself for a moment. He then beckoned with his palm as the Mental Energy that had transformed into the mysterious array flew down and poured into his mind.

When this array entered Lin Dong's mind, a picture of the symbol array that was almost ten feet wide appeared in his mind. This symbol array was extremely cryptic and profound, Lin Dong already felt his head ache a little after taking a single look. But at the same time, he was also able to sense that if this symbol array was successfully constructed, the power that it possessed would definitely outclass an Essence grade Secret Spirit Skill like 'Piercing Helicity'.

Lin Dong shut his eyes and studied the 'Manifestation Symbol Array' that he had just obtained. This continued for almost an hour before he gently opened his eyes and mumbled to himself for a while. With a thought, lines of Mental Energy gushed out from his Niwan Palace before constructing itself into strange figures before him. From the looks of it, it seemed to be the 'Manifestation Symbol Array'.

"Chi!"

Lin Dong's drawing did not last for long before a tiny mistake appeared. Immediately, the entire array quickly dissipated.

Upon seeing this outcome, Lin Dong could not help but let out a bitter laugh. This thing was indeed incomparable to an Essence grade Secret Spirit Skill, it was already several times more difficult to practise it.

“One step at a time. I don't believe that I will be unable to learn you after obtaining you!”

The first failure was not out of Lin Dong's expectations. After tidying up a little, he once again fully concentrated, restraining his mind as he very carefully manipulated his Mental Energy to draw the odd Mental Energy Symbol Array.

There was a huge difference between the cleansing effect of the eighth level and the seventh level below it. Thus, at all times, Lin Dong's Mental Energy was slowly upgrading. In addition, his Destiny Soul Symbols were constantly gulping down the Mental Energy pressure here, causing his speed to be even more remarkable.

The effect of staying here for one day was several times more potent than normal!

As for the ninth level above, Lin Dong did not recklessly try to enter. Though he had the aid of the Destiny Soul Symbol, he had already achieved victory and even obtained a Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill, thus, he was in no hurry to endanger himself.

Therefore, after successive and extremely intensive ascending, Lin Dong finally calmed down as he started to enjoy the various benefits the eighth floor brought...

.....

The most intense Tower Battle had ended and the entire Symbol Master Tower seemed to have become much quieter. Everyone started to make the most of their time, after the Symbol Master Tower opened, the Mental Energy pressure within will grow stronger each day, until it finally expelled everyone. Only then would the curtain to this Tower Battle finally fall.

This type of peace was rather torturous for grandmaster Yan and the rest who waited outside the tower. Till now, they had yet to find out who was the one who had successfully stepped onto the eighth floor...

Under this torturous wait, time passed by. Each day, many young Symbol Masters would grudgingly walk out from the Symbol Master Tower. As the Mental Energy pressure within grew increasingly stronger, they were no longer able to endure.

After these Symbol Masters exited the Symbol Master Tower, they were startled by grandmaster Yan's and the rest's serious expressions. Initially, they had thought that some accident had occurred, but after asking about, they looked up in shock as their gazes concentrated on the eighth floor. For many years, no one had stepped into that place, did someone finally manage to reach it this

year?

But...who exactly was that person?

The crowd looked at each other in dismay. Within their shock, traces of curiosity and doubt could be seen.

Chapter 142: The Outcome of the Battle

In the blink of an eye, six days had passed. Yet, not only did the number of people outside the Symbol Master Tower not decrease, instead, it continuously increased. A black mass of people watched the eighth level of the Symbol Master Tower together. There, a speck of light refused to budge.

“It’s been six days...”

At the head of the crowd, grandmaster Yan’s throat slightly moved. Like the rest, he faced upwards as he stared at the speck of light on the eighth level.

Originally, they had believed that regardless of whether it was Lin Dong or Zhou Tong, even if one of the two had managed to forcefully enter the eighth floor, he would definitely be unable to last for too long. Yet, this time, reality once more caused them to understand that they had guessed wrongly again.

That speck of light had already stayed at the eighth level for six days. If it were not for that fact that everyone had absolute faith in the tower, many would have questioned if that speck of light was a mistake...

“If that person is Zhou Tong, in the future, my Yan City Symbol Master Guild will perhaps be suppressed until we can no longer lift our heads, so much so that even the Symbol Master Guild from Tiandu City will be threatened.” Grandmaster Yan’s expression was somewhat solemn. He very clearly understood the

repercussions of this matter, but, even under this kind of intense anxiousness, deep in his heart, he still hoped for the best...

Which was: that the one who had successfully charged into the eighth level, was not Zhou Tong but Lin Dong!

If this was true, a Soul Symbol Master that could shake the Great Yan Empire in the future would be born in Yan City!

A Soul Symbol Master. At that stage, even those top elites who had advanced to the three Creation stage, would not dare to slight one. One word was all it took to move the mountains. Even in the whole Great Yan Empire, their ability was considered as truly first class!

However... since Lin Dong and Zhou Tong had yet to surface, the only thing they could do was wait.

By the seventh day, the number of light specks remaining inside the Symbol Master Tower could be counted on one hand. Those who could endure for such a long duration were likely the cream of the crop from both cities.

When noon of the seventh day arrived, Liu Long and Cao Zhu somewhat gloomily emerged from the Symbol Master Tower. Both of them seemed a little hideous, as their palms were drenched with blood. However, from their eyes, one could tell that they were in good condition. It seems like they had benefitted from the training over these past few days.

Just as the two of them walked out, they saw the crowds gathered in front of the Symbol Master Tower. Immediately, they were stunned, especially when several pairs of eyes turned towards them, causing their hearts to skip a beat. After staring about blankly for a moment, they very carefully proceeded forward and slipped to Han Yun's side.

“Master Han, what happened?” Liu Long and Cao Zhu cautiously inquired. They were both shocked by this odd situation.

Han Yun did not reply. Instead, he indicated towards the higher floors of the Symbol Master Tower with his chin. When Liu Long and Cao Zhu saw this, they also hurriedly lifted their heads. As their eyes stopped at the location of the eighth floor, their mouths instantly went ajar.

“The eighth floor?!”

Violently sucking in a breath of cold air, Liu Long and Cao Zhu were both ecstatic as they exclaimed: “Is it senior Zhou Tong?”

The two of them had absolute faith in Zhou Tong's abilities, and they believed that no one could match up to him in Yan City. Therefore, the only person who could possibly enter the eighth floor would be him.

However, just as they spoke out, they immediately saw Han Yun's mouth twitch and actually did not reply.

When they saw his expression, Liu Long's and Cao Zhu's facial expressions changed as they probed: "Could it be Zi Yue?"

Han Yun slowly shook his head, trying as much as possible to keep his voice calm: "It could be Lin Dong. However, there is a better chance that it is Zhou Tong."

"It could be Lin Dong..."

When they heard his words, Liu Long's and Cao Zhu's body began to tremble involuntarily. As they turned to look at one another, an uncontrollable horror emerged in their hearts. That fellow...to think that he was actually able to have a showdown with senior Zhou Tong.

"It will be our senior." Liu Long forced a smile as he said. However, when he saw Han Yun remain silent, his heart slowly began to sink.

Cao Zhu, who was standing aside, did not dare to utter another word. Originally, they planned to lodge a complaint against Lin Dong and forced him to spit out the items that he had taken from them. However, the reality of the situation made them understand that it was probably wise to avoid offending this person. Hence, their loss this time could only be written off as a lesson.

Even though he was a little wild, he was no fool. He clearly understood that if Lin Dong was truly able to barge into the eighth level, the potential he possessed was immensely terrifying. This was not a person that he could even come close to touching.

...

After Liu Long and Cao Zhu left the Symbol Master Tower, there remained only three specks of light within it. Everyone knew the trio these light specks represented.

On the seventh day, the light speck on the sixth floor disappeared. Soon after, an alluring purple figure appeared at the entrance of the Symbol Master Tower.

When they saw Zi Yue appear, a commotion erupted outside the Symbol Master Tower. Since the former had surfaced, this confirmed that the final two light specks in the Symbol Master Tower was indeed Lin Dong and Zhou Tong.

When Zi Yue saw that massive crowd outside the tower, a shocked expression surfaced fleetingly on her icy-cold yet pretty face, before it promptly disappeared. She took small quick steps as she walked towards grandmaster Yan, before she softly murmured: "Teacher, I am sorry."

"Haha, as long as you did your best." Grandmaster Yan smiled as he shook his head, before he lifted his head and said: "The final victor has yet to be decided..."

After hearing these words, Zi Yue also lifted up her head. When her beautiful eyes focused on that light speck on the eighth floor, she suddenly clenched her slender, lily-white hands. Meanwhile, a storm started to brew within her originally peaceful heart.

“Who is it?” Zi Yue’s voice trembled as she asked.

“We are still not sure.” Grandmaster Yan released a pained laugh as he said: “It could be Zhou Tong, or Lin Dong...”

“Lin Dong...” Zi Yue’s teeth softly bit her rosy lips as she recalled that young man. She never expected that this ordinary young man, could actually stand head to head with the number one younger generation Symbol Master from Sky Fire City.

“My judgement was poor.” Zi Yue silently mocked herself as she shook her head. The young man, whom she presumed to be not of much use, was now shouldering the reputation of all of Yan City’s Symbol Masters.

As Zi Yue left the Symbol Master Tower, the atmosphere outside became extremely tense. Everyone knew that the next person who walked out of the Symbol Master Tower, would seal the outcome of this Tower Battle!

Under this agonizing wait, another two days slowly passed...

When the ninth day arrived, a chorus erupted outside the Symbol Master Tower. This commotion caused the tensed atmosphere to explode.

“The glowing speck at the seventh floor is heading down!”

Everyone's eyes instantly moved, only to find that the light speck which had endured for nine days at the seventh floor, was now heading down level by level...

As they stared at the light speck that was descending, outside the tower, everyone abruptly stood up as their eyes stared unblinkingly at the entrance.

The appearance of this person would tell them who was the final victor in this Tower Battle!

Under the watchful gaze of the crowd, after several minutes, that light speck finally appeared on the ground floor...

It suddenly became much quieter outside the Symbol Master Tower. Faintly, one could hear a soft sound of footsteps sounding from within the tower. Moments later, a fuzzy figure walked out of the shadows and slowly appeared in front of the crowd.

When they saw that exhausted and drained man standing outside the Symbol Master Tower, the crowds immediately turned silent. Meanwhile, a gentle breeze blew, sweeping up the fallen leaves on the ground...

Zhou Tong!

As his eyes were fixated on the entrance of the tower, a dizzy sensation immediately gushed up Han Yun's head. Beside him, a look of disbelief surfaced on Liu Long and the other Symbol

Masters from Sky Fire City.

While they were in disbelief, some people involuntarily turned to look at the eighth floor. When they confirmed that the light speck was still there, they violently sucked in a breath of cold air.

The answer has finally been revealed. The person who had successfully barged into the eighth floor was not Zhou Tong, but Lin Dong!

The dead silence lasted for a split second, immediately, celebratory sounds erupted from Yan City's Symbol Master Guild. After two years of consecutive losses to Sky Fire City, their Yan City had obtained victory.

When he heard that earth-shattering celebratory noise, a heartening smile blossomed on grandmaster Yan's aged face as he heaved a sigh of relief. This time, he had won the gamble...

Beside him, Zi Yue pursed her rosy lips as her beautiful eyes turned to look at the light speck on the eighth floor. The coldness in her pupils had mostly dissipated now. No matter how prideful and frosty she was, after Lin Dong's extraordinary performance today, she had no choice but to fully concede!

Amongst the celebrations, Zhou Tong silently walked forth before he stopped in front of Han Yun and rubbed his face. After doing so, his face seemed less haggard than before. Meanwhile, his eyes regained their former spirit.

“Let’s head back to Sky Fire City.”

Zhou Tong calmly spoke to Han Yun. It seems like his spirits were not utterly crushed because of this defeat.

When he saw Zhou Tong’s calm expression, Han Yun let out a bitter laugh. Nonetheless, he did not scold the former. The attitude displayed by the former was very admirable even to him. For this kind of person, even if he could not match up to Lin Dong in the future, he would definitely accomplish great things.

After Zhou Tong words fell, he took the lead and lifted his legs up as he walked away. Meanwhile, the surrounding crowds swiftly began to disperse.

Zhou Tong led the group from Sky Fire City as he walked. As he was walking past the crowds, his footsteps suddenly stopped. At this moment, he was the focal point of the plaza. Hence, when they saw him stop, all of their attention immediately turned to focus on him.

“Grandmaster Yan, please tell Lin Dong that this time, I fully acknowledge my loss. However, the next time, should we have the opportunity, I will definitely surpass him!”

After he spoke, Zhou Tong did not bother to linger on, as he directly walked away and disappeared from the crowd’s sight.

“That fellow did not crumble after his defeat. He is really

something...” As he stared at Zhou Tong’s departing figure, grandmaster Yan softly sighed as he said.

The surrounding Symbol Masters nodded their heads after hearing his words. Even though he lost, Zhou Tong’s mannerism was truly admirable.

Grandmaster Yan gently smiled as he turned his head to look at that light speck on the eighth floor.

“Haha, however our guy from Yan City is even more remarkable...”

Chapter 143: Third seal Symbol Master

While the world outside was abuzz about the Tower Battle, the eighth level of the Symbol Master Tower remained peacefully quiet. Lin Dong's figure was as still as a statue as he sat before the stone tablet.

Although Lin Dong did not move in the slightest, an extremely strong suction force filled the air around his body. Under this suction force, the exceptionally vigorous Mental Energy undulations on the eighth level was all sucked over before endlessly pouring the Niwan Palace inside Lin Dong's mind.

Ten days. Ever since he had stepped onto the eighth floor, Lin Dong had stayed here for ten days. Over these ten days, he could actually sense it as his Mental Energy swiftly grew.

These ten days were short, but, to Lin Dong, they were comparable to almost half a year of cultivation outside.

Of course, this was naturally due to his Destiny Soul Symbol transforming into Soul Symbol vortexes. That frightening devouring power was even able to gulp down the Mental Energy pressure that filled the air, and finally turning it into vigorous Mental Energy that was stored in his Niwan Palace.

After ten days, Lin Dong was clearly able to feel that his Mental Energy was rapidly nearing the third seal stage. According to this speed, it would not be long before he could truly break through to the third seal Symbol Master stage!

This kind of speed could only be described using one word: frightening. After all, even grandmaster Yan had said that even if Lin Dong was able to enter the eighth level, the former could only guarantee that the latter would advance to the third seal Symbol Master level within half a year. Yet, at present...Lin Dong had completely shortened this time by more than ten times!

Although most of the credit went to the Destiny Soul Symbol, this speed was indeed too dreadful.

As time flowed, the figure that was seated before the stone tablet suddenly trembled a little. Soon after, Lin Dong's tightly shut eyes slowly opened, deep within those eyes, a light fluttered.

After opening his eyes, Lin Dong mumbled to himself for quite some time before beckoned with his hand as lines of Mental Energy burst out from his Niwan Palace. The Mental Energy swiftly gathered in mid-air and finally faintly took shape. As the lines drew across the air, it gradually formed into a mysterious and profound symbol array that was several feet big.

Lin Dong's gaze was tightly fixed onto the slowly forming symbol array. Over these ten days, he failed countless time. Trying to utilise Mental Energy to draw such a complicated symbol array was not only very demanding towards Mental Energy control, but, one also could not be even the slightest bit distracted. Or else, even the smallest slip-up would lead to the complete destruction of one's previous efforts.

Fortunately, after experiencing countless failures, Lin Dong became increasingly proficient at drawing the symbol array. As he drew the symbol array, it no longer looked as amateurish as before...

Under Lin Dong's full attention, the structure of the symbol array slowly took shape in mid-air. A long time later, the finally step finally perfected it...

“Buzz!”

In the moment where the symbol array was successfully constructed, a peculiar buzzing sound immediately vibrated across the eighth level. Next, an exceedingly formidable Mental Energy undulation rippled out from the symbol array.

“Such a strong Mental Energy undulation!”

As he felt the undulations that spread out from within the symbol array, Lin Dong could not help but be somewhat moved. Was this the might of a Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill? To think that it was strong to such a level.

If Lin Dong was proficient in the ‘Manifestation Symbol Array’ before his decisive battle with Wei Tong, he was completely confident that he cause the latter to lose even the strength to counter attack!

After sensing the might of the ‘Manifestation Symbol Array’, Lin

Dong was delighted. Soon after, he waved his hand as the symbol array that floated in mid-air quickly shrunk before transforming into an formless glowing shadow which shot into Lin Dong's eyes.

For this type of symbol array, as long as it was successfully constructed once, it would then be able to become a seed-like symbol array. When fighting with another person the the future, one no longer needed to so painstakingly and carefully construct from scratch. As long as this seed-like symbol array was summoned, and infused with Mental Energy, it would rapidly take shape for battle. However, if the seed-like symbol array was forcefully scattered by someone, it implicate the user's body, causing some wounds to appear. All in all, it would be both one's strength and one's weakness.

After the symbol array entered his eye and was kept in his Niwan Palace, Lin Dong finally softly sighed in relief. After this nonstop practising over this period, he was at least able to obtain a bare minimum mastery of this 'Manifestation Symbol Array'. So long as he continued to practise in the future, this would definitely become his ultimate killing move.

And after completing this 'Manifestation Symbol Array' training, Lin Dong was finally able to place all of his attention on Mental Energy cultivation.

Seated before the stone tablet, Lin Dong rested and reorganized himself for a while before his mind submerged into his Niwan Palace. Currently, vigorous Mental Energy rippled about his Niwan Palace. The two Soul Symbol vortexes ceaselessly spun as an unending stream of pure Mental Energy flowed in from the outside

world before finally pouring into the vortexes.

In response to this endless streams which poured in, the Soul Symbol vortex was like a bottomless pit that was unable to be filled. However, as its master, Lin Dong was able to sense that an extremely strong Mental Energy was condensing within the Soul Symbol vortex. When the Soul Symbol vortex truly stopped, perhaps, the time would come for him to successfully advance to become a third seal Symbol Master...

As he observed the Soul Symbol vortex, moments later, Lin Dong suddenly realized that he was not able to interfere much. The Soul Symbol vortex was completely independent as it operated. Even if he did not intentionally urge it on, the vortex would still spin untiringly, absorbing the boundless Mental Energy in the eighth level...

Towards this, Lin Dong could only somewhat helplessly scratch his head. He retrieved a biscuit from his Qiankun bag and quickly wolfed it down before closing his eyes. These ten days of training made him understand how mystical this place was. Since he had climbed up with great difficulty, he naturally needed to get his money's worth before leaving.

Thus, while Lin Dong carried this thought, ten days once again quietly passed without his notice.

Now, outside the Symbol Master Tower, the originally black mass of people had shrunk by quite a lot. Only grandmaster Yan and the rest came here everyday to wait for the guy who had already spent more than half a month in the tower.

Initially, with regards to the fact that Lin Dong was able to last for ten days at the eighth level, grandmaster Yan and the rest were already extremely shocked. Everyone knew how strong the Mental Energy pressure of the eighth level was, being able to endure for three or four days there was already fairly amazing. Yet, Lin Dong had spent a full ten days there without any signs of coming down.

However, this shock gradually turned to numbness as time passed. Especially when they counted till the record breaking twentieth day, their faces no longer contained even the slightest traces of astonishment. At this time, if someone else told them that Lin Dong was prepared to spend his whole life up there, they would perhaps numbly nod their heads.

...

Outside the tower, grandmaster Yan lifted his head and gazed at the speck of light on the eighth level. He stroked his neck as he asked: "It's already the twenty fourth day, is this guy truly not intending to come down?"

"The Mental Energy pressure in the tower is growing stronger and stronger, how is that guy able to bear with it?" Beside him, Zi Yue wrinkled her umber-black brows as she said in bewilderment.

"Who knows..."

Grandmaster Yan let out a bitter laugh. Although he was somewhat confident in Lin Dong, he had never expected that Lin

Dong would be able to reach the eighth level and even stay there for more than twenty days. All these years, there were very few who could stay in Yan City's Symbol Master Tower for over twenty days, in particular, lasting for more than twenty days on the eighth level was as rare as a phoenix feather or a unicorn's horn.

In the future, these existences would become the most outstandingly renowned and top-tier experts in the Great Yan Empire...

“Could something have happened?” Zi Yue was a little worried as she asked.

Upon hearing these words, grandmaster Yan's expression slightly changed, he was silent for a while before he replied: “I doubt so. Let's wait for two more days, if there are still no signs of Lin Dong appearing, I will personally go and take a look. Sigh, the Mental Energy pressure in the Symbol Master Tower is too strong, even I dare not so lightly step in...”

Zi Yue lightly nodded her head. Just as she was about to speak, her pretty face suddenly changed as she quickly lifted her head. Her beautiful eyes were concentrated on the eighth level of the Symbol Master Tower, there, she suddenly felt an extremely powerful Mental Energy undulation!

“It's Lin Dong's Mental Energy undulation!”

Grandmaster Yan likewise sensed it as he lifted his head to stare at the eighth level of the Symbol Master Tower. His gaze turned a

little serious as he slowly said: “This guy...no wonder he refused to come down for so long. It turns out that he wanted to break through to the third seal Symbol Master stage in one go!”

“How is that possible?”

Zi Yue immediately said in alarm. Though the Symbol Master Tower had an especially intense effect towards condensing Mental Energy, it was after all not at the earth-shattering level. How could it allow one to break through from the second seal to the third seal stage in less than a month?!

“It is indeed impossible, but, it is indeed true. However, as for whether he succeeds, it’s still hard to say...” Grandmaster Yan laughed bitterly. That Mental Energy undulation could not be mistaken, it indeed belonged to Lin Dong.

While the two spoke, the Mental Energy undulation that spread out from the eighth level became stronger and stronger. In the end, even grandmaster Yan seemed a little moved. This kind of undulation was not like any ordinary third seal Symbol Master’s. This guy truly had quite a few secrets.

...

While grandmaster Yan and the rest were amazed by the Mental Energy undulations that were spreading outwards, in the eighth level, a great change was occurring in Lin Dong’s Niwan Palace. The originally two Soul Symbol vortexes had already fused together as an extremely formidable Mental Energy undulation

spread out from within the vortex.

“Buzz buzz!”

As the Mental Energy undulation spread, the fused Soul Symbol vortex also swiftly distorted. Moments later, it transformed into a profound and mysterious symbol of light. Two cracks appeared on the symbol of light and soon after, the enlarged before finally breaking open, and transforming into three smaller Soul Symbols, which floated within the Niwan Palace.

“Boom!”

The instant the three Destiny Soul Symbols appeared, it was as if a raging Mental Energy storm suddenly appeared in Lin Dong’s Niwan Palace. Vigorous undulations spread out from within the Niwan Palace before finally invading every part of Lin Dong’s body.

All of the muscles and bones in Lin Dong’s body started to tremble. His tightly shut eyes suddenly opened, within those eyes, a Mental Energy wave seemingly appearing to have substance burst out. A sharp hiss carried this tyrannical Mental Energy and like a volcano, it erupted out!

When that exceptionally tyrannical Mental Energy exploded out, below the Symbol Master Tower, both grandmaster Yan and Zi Yue lightly sucked in a breath of cold air as they mumbled: “This guy...he actually succeeded...”

Chapter 144: Ancestral Symbol

“Boom!”

The formidable Mental Energy undulations was like a surging wave as it swept across the eighth level of the Symbol Master Tower. Under this ferocious wave, even the Mental Energy pressure that filled the air was forcefully scattered.

In front of the stone tablet, Lin Dong's eyes were glaringly bright like a pair of stars. It was quite some time before the brightness finally dimmed and dissipated together with the Mental Energy undulations.

“Phew...”

Lin Dong spit out a ball of white Qi and stood up from the ground. When he stood up, the Mental Energy pressure that had disappeared for over twenty days actually returned once more. However, now that Lin Dong's Mental Energy had grown tremendously, that Mental Energy pressure only caused his shoulders to dip a little, and was not able to restrict his body.

“Looks like it's because the Soul Symbol vortex has vanished.”

The Mental Energy pressure that once again bore down on his body caused Lin Dong to be startled. Soon after, he suddenly understood. The Soul Symbol vortexes in his Niwan Palace had already transformed into three Destiny Soul Symbols, and the sucking force had likewise completely dissipated. This resulted in

the return of the Mental Energy pressure.

“Third seal Symbol Master...”

As he felt the Mental Energy pressure that now did not seem very threatening, although it used to be capable of crushing him within inches of his life not long before, Lin Dong could not help but laugh. A third seal Symbol Master was indeed much stronger than a second seal one. Or else, the current him would perhaps be directly pushed out of the Symbol Master Tower by the Mental Energy pressure's return.

“My cultivation here is almost at its end...” Lin Dong stretched his body. It could be said that he had quite a bountiful haul in this Symbol Master Tower affair. Not only did he obtain a Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill, most importantly, he had successfully broken through to the third seal Symbol Master stage in less than a month. To Lin Dong, this was undoubtedly an extremely huge awakening.

Due to the peculiarity of Lin Dong's Destiny Soul Symbol, although he was only a third seal Symbol Master, the power of his Mental Energy was perhaps comparable to that of the usual fourth seal Symbol Master. Generally speaking, a fourth seal Symbol Master was able to contend against a Perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner. Thus, Lin Dong now had the ability to exchange blows with a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner. Although he might not achieve victory against one, he would at least not need to be as fearful of one as before.

Even though the Symbol Master Tower was an extremely good

Mental Energy cultivation spot, one could not stay here forever. Being able to last for over twenty days here was already Lin Dong's limit. Furthermore, the Soul Symbol vortex had now dissipated. It would not be long before he would be forcefully expelled out of the Symbol Master Tower by the increasingly powerful Mental Energy pressure.

"I guess it's time to leave." Lin Dong mumbled to himself. Just as he turned to go, his moving gaze suddenly caught sight of Mental Energy barrier at the central area. There, the passageway to the ninth level stood.

When Lin Dong's gaze concentrated on the Mental Energy barrier, his expression started to fluctuate. He was naturally extremely curious about the ninth level of the Symbol Master Tower. If the eighth level had a Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill, what would there be on the ninth floor?

As he stood on the spot, Lin Dong hesitated for a moment. If it was said that he was not interested in the ninth level, that would be a lie. Yet, who knew if there would be any danger within that level.

"I'll have a try. Since i'm going to leave, even if I fail, I would at worst be expelled from the Symbol Master Tower."

Lin Dong hesitated for quite a while on the spot before gritting his teeth. It was not easy for him to reach the eighth level, it would be such a waste if he did not experience the ninth level for a while.

Since he had made his decision, Lin Dong no longer hesitated as he stepped forward and swiftly walked towards the Mental Energy barrier blocking the path to the ninth level.

Although he had lost the Soul Symbol vortexes' resistive powers, after Lin Dong's tremendous improvement in Mental Energy, he might be able to endure. Thus, moments later, he arrived before the Mental Energy barrier. After pondering a little, he took a step forward.

“Dong!”

As Lin Dong charged into the Mental Energy barrier that led to the ninth level, a soft and low sound immediately echoed out from the Mental Energy barrier. Quickly, an extremely formidable force gushed out from within and attempted to push Lin Dong's body out.

“Humph!”

When he felt that repelling force, Lin Dong merely snorted. The three Destiny Soul Symbols in his Niwan Palace instantly dispatched portions of vigorous Mental Energy to resist the force from the Mental Energy barrier.

Chaotic Mental Energy undulations endlessly spread out from within that Mental Energy barrier while Lin Dong's figure looked as if it was frozen inside the barrier. However, if one took a closer look, one would realize that he was not stuck but instead merging with the Mental Energy barrier at an extremely slow speed.

Their confrontation lasted for almost ten minutes. Though that small step seemed extremely tiny, under the fierce resistance of the Mental Energy barrier, it was very difficult to make in the end.

“Get lost!”

As the deadlock continued, Lin Dong became a little impatient. A light flashed in his eyes as the three Destiny Soul Symbols inside his Niwan Palace slightly contracted before suddenly swelling.

“Boom!”

As the three Destiny Soul Symbol expanded, three portions of extremely formidable Mental Energy were like a storm as they swept forward and actually forcefully pushed away some of the swamp-like obstructing force.

In the instance when some of the obstructing force was pushed away , Lin Dong’s foot seized the opportunity to step forward. His figure flashed as all traces of it faded away.

When Lin Dong’s figure disappeared, the sight before his eyes turned black for a split second before being restored in the blink of an eye as he swiftly looked around.

The ninth level of the Symbol Tower was exceptionally normal. The space was very small and extended only a dozen or more feet. The floor was covered in dust, compared to the floors below, it

seemed very messy.

Lin Dong was also stunned for a moment by this sight. Evidently, he had not expected that the mysterious ninth level would actually look so ordinary. It seems as if there was nothing special about this place.

Eyebrows furrowed, Lin Dong carefully inspected the ninth level. Moments later, his gaze paused on the tower walls on both sides. There were numerous patterns on these walls which looked rather cryptic, but after Lin Dong observed for a while, he found that these cryptic patterns seemed to form two extremely complex and ancient symbols.

The ancient symbols were so complicated that one would feel dizzy looking at it. Yet, each stroke seemed to contain the essence of heaven and earth which would cause one to be involuntarily drawn in. Exceedingly magical.

Lin Dong's gaze concentrated on the lines of symbols on the left wall. As he concentrated completely, he abruptly realized that this picture-like ancient symbol was actually emitting a weak suction force. Under that suction force, the Destiny Soul Symbol in his Niwan Palace seemed to be about to fly out towards it.

Upon sensing this strange situation, all the hairs on Lin Dong's body stood up as he hastily retreated two steps. It was rather unfathomable, these symbols were just ordinary pictures, as if a person had used a brush to casually draw them on the wall. These were not symbols formed by Mental Energy, how could it possibly possess such a strange ability?

“Suction power...”

While bewildered, Lin Dong’s expression suddenly slightly changed. Quickly, he lifted his head to stare at the extremely complicated symbol which seemed to show a hint of ancientness. Before, he had not realised that the ancient symbol on the wall was actually a tiny bit similar to the Destiny Soul Symbol in his Niwan Palace!

Of course, there was only a tiny resemblance. The Destiny Soul Symbol in his Niwan Palace was far from being as complicated and cryptic as the ancient symbol. It was as if it had been simplified countless times, causing some waves to start churning in Lin Dong’s heart...

Could it be that there was some special relation between his Destiny Soul Symbol and the ancient symbol?

When he recalled the strange abilities of his Destiny Soul Symbol, Lin Dong’s expression turned somewhat strange. What exactly was this ancient symbol on the wall?

His expression was a little queer, he did not know why but he felt that his Destiny Soul Symbol should have some relation with this ancient symbol.

“What is this symbol?” Lin Dong mumbled to himself. From its outward appearance, this ancient symbol seemed like an extremely terrifying thing. Though it was drawn using a brush, it already

possessed this kind of powers. If a symbol like this was cultivated into a Destiny Symbol, what kind of earth-shattering powers would it possess?

The discovery of this mysterious ancient symbol caused Lin Dong's heart to be in turmoil. He never imagined that he would actually encounter this thing due to chance when he entered the Symbol Master Tower this time. Plus, his Destiny Soul Symbol seemed to have some unique relationship with this thing.

Lin Dong pursed his lips as his eyes swept across the two ancient symbols on the wall. A split second later, his eyes suddenly concentrated on a corner of the wall, there, some almost illegible handwriting could be seen. The words seemed to have been written long ago, thus, they looked very indistinct. Lin Dong tried to identify them for quite a while and only managed to discern two words.

Ancestral Symbol.

The two words were almost illegible, but, when Lin Dong identified them, he did not understand why but reverence gushed up from deep in his heart. Even the three Destiny Soul Symbols in his Niwan Palace shuddered a little.

“Ancestral Symbol...what is that?” Lin Dong stared at the two words as he muttered to himself.

“Within heaven and earth, Symbol Masters condense a Destiny Symbol with Mental Energy. They are split into countless grades,

but, within heaven and earth, the most formidable one would be the Ancestral Symbol. The Ancestral Symbol was not made by man but condensed by the laws of heaven and earth. Every Ancestral Symbol possesses the power to open the heavens. The one who possesses the Ancestral Symbol would be the strongest existence within heaven and earth.”

While Lin Dong was at a loss, a familiar voice suddenly echoed out in his mind. It was the little marten.

“You’ve awoken?” After hearing this voice, Lin Dong was pleasantly surprised as he asked.

“Yes...”

On Lin Dong’s shoulder, a glowing shadow condensed as the small marten appeared. Its tiny eyes stared at the two ancient symbols on the wall as it sighed and muttered: “I truly did not expect that, there would still be someone who knew about the existence of the Ancestral Symbol in this kind of place.....”

Chapter 145: Mental Energy Map

“The Ancestral Symbol is so powerful?”

When he saw that even this mysterious small marten was so respectful towards that so-called Ancestral Symbol, Lin Dong was highly shocked. Promptly, he delightedly exclaimed: “Right now, isn’t there two Ancestral Symbol before our eyes?”

“Quit daydreaming kid.”

The small marten looked at Lin Dong as if he was an idiot, before it mocked: “For something like an Ancestral Symbol. Even if only one appeared, it would flip the skies and land, let alone two. You think the mere Great Yan Empire can hold onto such a godly object?”

As he was being stared at by small marten, Lin Dong began to feel slightly embarrassed. It seems like he had indeed been delusional.

“The two Ancestral Symbols here were merely copied onto the walls. The person who left them behind must have seen these two Ancestral Symbols in the past. Heh, he must have been quite skilled, since he are able to rely on his memory to draw out these two Ancestral Symbols. After all, these Ancestral Symbols are formed by the laws of heaven and earth. Most ordinary Symbol Masters will not be able to carve out their shapes. Since this person could successfully carve out the shapes of these two Ancestral Symbols, even though it merely reflects their form, it is already a pretty good accomplishment.” The small marten took a look at the

two extremely complex and ancient symbols carved on the wall, as it commented.

“Since that senior has seen these Ancestral Symbols before, he should know where they are right?” Lin Dong probed.

Upon hearing these words, small marten fell silent. After a long period of silence, it then gradually nodded its head as it said: “That is possible, since the Ancestral Symbol is hidden between heaven and earth. Anyone who obtains these Ancestral Symbols will definitely become a legendary figure in the world. Perhaps this person must have encountered these two Ancestral Symbols somewhere.”

“How many Ancestral Symbols are there in the world?” Lin Dong somewhat curiously asked. He knew that with regards to these kind of godly items, perhaps he would never get a chance to even see one. However, he could not help but ask.

“According to my knowledge, there should be a total of eight Ancestral Symbols in the world. In the past, I met a person who possessed an Ancestral Symbol. His strength could truly be called terrifying. Even at my peak, I was not his match.” The small marten muttered.

Lin Dong did not know how strong the small marten was at its peak. However, from the tone of its voice, he deduced that at its full power, this fellow’s strength should have at least exceeded the three Creation stage. Perhaps, it had even reached the Nirvana stage.

However, even with such formidable abilities, it was still crushed by an elite practitioner who possessed an Ancestral Symbol. Therefore, one could only imagine just how frightening such a person was.

“The eight Ancestral Symbols are extremely mysterious. The fact that this person was fortunate enough to witness two Ancestral Symbols indicated that he was quite skilled. Based on the imprints on the walls, these should not be the Ancestral Symbols that I witnessed before. Therefore, perhaps these two Ancestral Symbols have yet to surface.” The small marten continued.

“You should have noticed by now that the Destiny Soul Symbols in my Niwan Palace seemed somewhat similar to these Ancestral Symbols right?” Lin Dong was silent for a moment, before he suddenly asked inquisitively.

He was keen to know just what was going on too. At first, he thought that his symbols were merely ordinary Destiny Symbols he had obtained by chance. However, based on the current situation, it seems like they were pretty extraordinary.

“This...” When it heard Lin Dong’s question, the small marten went silent for a time before it said: “The Destiny Soul Symbols you possess should be somewhat related to these Ancestral Symbols. If I am not mistaken, they were perhaps condensed from a very able person’s understanding of these Ancestral Symbols. Therefore, in a manner of speaking, they were born from these Ancestral Symbols...”

“If that is the case, that person is truly formidable. After living all these years, I have rarely heard of anyone who could comprehend these Ancestral Symbols, let alone managing to condense new symbols from them.” Towards the end, a hint of respect could be detected from small marten’s tone.

Lin Dong gently nodded his head, as its explanation made sense. However, he only obtained this item by chance. Hence, there was no way for him to find out which wise man had created this Ancient Swirl Symbol.

“It’s a pity that they have only inscribed these Ancestral Symbols. If we could find out the location of these Ancestral Symbols, that would be incredible. After all, these objects are truly legendary.” The small marten somewhat regretfully said.

Lin Dong shrugged his shoulders as he did not seem to mind. Even though these so-called Ancestral Symbols seemed incredibly powerful, to him, it was too much of a lofty target. After all, his current goals were to safeguard his Lin Family, and to obtain a respectable result in the Lin Clan Gathering two years later to fulfill Lin Zhentian’s decades-old wish.

“There is nothing more to see. Let’s go.” Lin Dong waved his hand as he prepared to leave.

“Wait a moment.”

When it heard that Lin Dong was planning to leave, the small marten hurriedly called out. As it saw the inquisitive glance from

the former, it pointed to a wall as it said: “Summon your Destiny Soul Symbol and paste it towards the Ancestral Symbols on the wall.”

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong’s eyebrows slightly furrowed. This fellow seemed really persistent. After a moment of hesitation, he could only obey its instructions as he summoned the Destiny Soul Symbol inside his Niwan Palace. However, to be on the safe side, Lin Dong only summoned one out of three symbols inside his Niwan Palace.

His Destiny Soul Symbol glowed as it hovered in mid-air. Lin Dong carefully manipulated it, before he brushed it towards the wall.

“Buzz.”

Under the nervous glazes of Lin Dong and the small marten, that Destiny Soul Symbol began to approach the Ancestral Symbol inscribed on the wall. Just as the two were mere inches away, his Destiny Soul Symbol suddenly began to vibrate. Then, as it broke free of Lin Dong’s control, it turned into a palm-sized Soul Symbol vortex.

This sudden change caused Lin Dong to panic, as he hurriedly tried to recall his Destiny Soul Symbol, only to discover that he had already lost control of it.

“Don’t panic, it’s only a Destiny Soul Symbol. Even if you lose it, you can cultivate it back again. However, if we can obtain

something extra from this, it would be worth it even if we were to lose a hundred of them.” Just as Lin Dong alarmed, the small marten hastily said.

“You had better not be lying to me!” Lin Dong gritted his teeth as he said.

“Pfft. If it was not for the fact that you helped me previously, This grandpa marten would not even bother to help you. For a Symbol Master, an Ancestral Symbol is practically a legendary weapon. If you could obtain it, I guarantee that you will become a legendary figure within heaven and earth!” The small marten pursed its lips as it disdainfully said.

While Lin Dong and the small marten was conversing, threads of Mental Energy began to gradually flow out from the Soul Symbol vortex. Then, like a ray of light, they shined on the Ancestral Symbol inscribed on the wall.

As these Mental Energy rays shone on the inscribed Ancestral Symbol, some of the light rays were reflected off. These light rays were reflected into the empty space in front of them, as picture was faintly formed.

“This is... a map of the Great Yan Empire?” As they stared at the map formed by Mental Energy, Lin Dong was slightly astonished as he asked. Just as he finished speaking, his eyes concentrated at a particular spot on the map. At that spot was a bright red dot.

“This is a map that points to the location of the Ancestral

Symbol.” The small marten casually said before it chided: “You are really a lucky brat. If news of this map got out, all the Symbol Masters in the Great Yan Empire will turn insane.”

Lin Dong scratched his head, as he attentively looked at this Mental Energy map. On the map, besides a red dot inside the Great Yan Empire, there was another red dot. However, the location of that dot seemed extremely remote. It was probably not located within the Great Yan Empire.

The Mental Energy map did not surface for long, before it turned into streams of light that shot inside the Soul Symbol vortex. Then, the vortex squirmed as it turned back into a Destiny Soul Symbol and returned to Lin Dong’s mind.

As that Destiny Soul Symbol returned, Lin Dong could sense that something extra was added to his mind. He guessed that it should be due to that map.

“I simply can’t believe this. Inside this puny Great Yan Empire, there was actually someone who knew about the location of two Ancestral Symbols.” The small marten also gradually recovered its senses. Based on its expression, it seems like it was totally shocked by the existence of this map. After all, in the whole world, there were only eight Ancestral Symbols. Therefore, it seemed too unbelievable that they could obtain the location of two Ancestral Symbols in this shabby Symbol Master Tower.

“Since that senior knew where these Ancestral Symbols were, why did he not obtain them for himself? An Ancestral Symbol should hold great appeal for a Symbol Master, right?” Lin Dong

somewhat suspiciously asked.

“How should I know...furthermore, do you think it’s so easy to obtain an Ancestral Symbol? These legendary objects cannot be tamed by any ordinary individual.” The small marten rolled its eyes before it said: “Perhaps that man had some unique scouting abilities?”

With regards to this irresponsible guess, Lin Dong felt resigned. Even though he knew the location of these Ancestral Symbols, he did not plan to look for them immediately. After all, he was aware that based on his current strength, even if he managed to find these Ancestral Symbols, he could only stare blankly at them. Right now, he did not believe that these legendary objects would possibly subjugate themselves to this ordinary him.

“Can we leave now?” Lin Dong spread out his hands at the small marten and said.

“Let’s go. Based on your current strength, it would indeed be foolish to look for these Ancestral Symbols. You should only go after you at least become a little capable.” Without considering Lin Dong’s feelings, the small marten unceremoniously said. Then, as it waved its claws, its body began to slowly dissipate as it turned into a glowing shadow and flew back into the Stone Talisman embedded in Lin Dong’s palm.

Lin Dong shook his head in resignation. Right now, he was quite famous in this Yan city. However, when he faced the small marten, all he received was humiliation.

“Time to go.”

As he lifted his head to once again scan the two walls, Lin Dong somehow felt that the Ancestral Symbols inscribed on these walls had become much dimmer. That sensation felt as if the spirit inside them had somehow disappeared.

With regards to this transformation, Lin Dong briefly guessed that it was because he had obtained the Mental Energy map hidden within them. Therefore, in the future, anyone who ventured here would probably be unable to obtain the map...

As he thought about this, Lin Dong gently smiled. Then, turning around, his body slowly faded from the ninth floor.

“Crack crack!”

When Lin Dong’s figure disappeared, the walls inscribed with the Ancestral Symbol suddenly began to crumble. Pieces of the wall fell off, and in mere seconds, the two Ancestral Symbols completely disappeared...

Chapter 146: A Storm Arises

When Lin Dong walked out from the Symbol Master Tower, he saw a bunch of wooden stake-like figures. Gazes snapped in his direction at an extremely terrifying speed. It was as if they had seen a ghost.

“Grandmaster Yan, are you guys okay?” After being stared at by their strange gazes, Lin Dong could not help but let out a dry laugh as he walked forward and said.

“You’ve entered the ninth level?” Grandmaster Yan’s voice could not help but tremble slightly as he firmly stared at Lin Dong. Even he was unable to enter the ninth level of the Symbol Master Tower, but just before, he had indeed personally seen Lin Dong’s speck of light at the ninth level for a period of time.

“Oh? What’s wrong? I only tested if I could enter the ninth level...” Upon seeing grandmaster Yan’s expression, Lin Dong was also a little frightened. He was under the impression that they had found out about what he had done on the ninth level. Immediately, he very carefully asked.

“This fellow...”

After hearing Lin Dong confess, grandmaster Yan and several third seal middle-aged Symbol Masters beside him all inhaled an icy breath of air as shock spilled out from their eyes. No one had been able to enter the ninth level for many years, to think that Lin Dong had managed to break in.

“Thankfully, those Sky Fire City people had left quickly. Or else, they would be so taken aback that they would vomit blood.” One of the middle-aged Symbol Masters forced a smile as he said. The others also nodded their heads in agreement. No one could imagine that Lin Dong was actually able to successfully ascend to the most mysterious ninth level of the Symbol Master Tower.

Lin Dong let out two dry laughs. He knew that if they talked about one’s true ability, he would perhaps at most be equal to Zhou Tong. If it was not for his special Destiny Soul Symbol, he would absolutely be unable to garner such achievements.

Of course, even if this was so, it was enough to show that Lin Dong’s Mental Energy talent was indeed exceptionally astonishing. After all, without his Destiny Soul Symbol, perhaps there would be not much difference between him and Zhou Tong. Yet, the fact was that Zhou Tong was the number one young Symbol Master in Sky Fire City, plus, the time he spent bitterly cultivating his Mental Energy far surpassed Lin Dong. And yet, Lin Dong was still able to overtake the latter, this level of Mental Energy talent could only be called monstrous.

“This time, it’s all thanks to you.” While Lin Dong chuckled a little forcefully, to one side, Zi Yue also walked forward and softly said. Now, her face was no longer as frosty it was initially. This time, all credit for ensuring the Symbol Master Tower stayed in Yan City was Lin Dong’s. Though she had a proud and cold by character, she was not too arrogant, thus, she naturally no longer showed such an icy expression.

Upon seeing this cold beauty suddenly turn much gentler, Lin Dong felt a little uneasy. He smiled and said: “I merely fulfilled what I was tasked to do.”

“You should have now already advanced to the third seal Symbol Master stage right?” Grandmaster Yan stroke his beard as he chuckled. Ever since Lin Dong had entered the Symbol Master Tower, they had practically never left this spot. All of their attention was focused here, thus, the ripples caused by Lin Dong when he made a breakthrough did not escape their senses.

“Yes.”

With regards to this point, Lin Dong did not bother hiding it. Immediately, he grinned as he nodded his head. This look caused some of them to painfully smile as they secretly sighed. They had cultivated for roughly a dozen years before reaching this step, yet, Lin Dong had caught up to them in less than two years. This speed would truly cause one to exclaim in admiration.

“The people from Sky Fire City have already left, haha, Zhou Tong left a message for you: when he meets you again, he would definitely beat you.”

Lin Dong chuckled, he did not have any ill will towards Zhou Tong and even understood him a little. If they met in future, Lin Dong would try and see if they could become friends.

Since the Tower Battle affair had smoothly come to an end, Lin Dong no longer needed to stay. He had been away for almost a

month this time and should probably rush back home. Thus, after chatting with grandmaster Yan and the rest for a while, he said his goodbyes and left.

...

After leaving the Symbol Master Guild, Lin Dong directly headed back to the Lin Family. Not long after he passed through the entrance, his eyebrows involuntarily furrowed a little. The Lin Family today seemed much more lonely than usual.

“Brother Lin Dong!”

While Lin Dong’s eyebrows were furrowed, a familiar and clear voice sounded out from in front of him. The former lifted his head and gazed at the green clothed girl who was approaching with small quick steps as a gentle smile quickly surfaced: “Qing Tan.”

“Brother Lin Dong, you’re finally back.” Qing Tan stood before Lin Dong, thick delight in her glittering limpid eyes. Beside her, Little Flame also let out an excited growl.

“Brother Lin Dong is back!”

When Qing Tan’s voice rang out, quite a number of figures quickly ran out from the manor. What was astonishing was that most of them were the younger generation members of the Lin Family. At the front of the crowd, Lin Dong also saw Lin Xia, Lin Hong and the rest that he had not seen for quite some time.

“Sister Lin Xia, what is wrong? Where are grandpa and the rest?” As he looked towards Lin Xia, Lin Dong’s eyebrows knitted together while he asked.

“Something happened. Grandpa and the rest are out.” Lin Xia hesitantly replied.

“What happened?” Upon hearing this, Lin Dong’s heart slightly sunk. He had felt earlier that something was amiss. Immediately, he decided to get to the heart of the matter.

“Two batches of Yang Yuan Stones from our Lin Family’s Steel Wood Manor have been robbed, plus, father and first uncle have been injured...” To one side, Qing Tan’s softly said. As she spoke, her tiny fists tightly clenched, she was clearly rather furious.

“Father was injured?”

Upon hearing these words, a vicious look instantly surfaced in Lin Dong’s eyes as he slowly spoke: “Did you find out who did it?”

“I heard grandfather and the rest say it should be the Ghost Blade Sect of Yan City.” Lin Xia replied.

“The Ghost Blade Sect? Is their leader ghost blade Gui Yan?”

Lin Dong’s eyebrows lightly furrowed. He had heard of the Ghost

Blade Sect, though they were unable to compare to one of the top three factions like the Thousand Gold Association, they were not weak. Most importantly, the leader of the Ghost Blade Sect, Gui Yan, was a rather renowned figure in Yan City. Although he had yet to advance to the perfect Yuan Dan stage, he was the number one among the practitioners at the advanced Yuan Dan stage. In comparison, Wei Tong's reputation was a tad less resounding.

“The Lin Family should not have any grudges with them right?”

“We indeed do not have any grudges with the Ghost Blade Sect, however, it is said that the Ghost Blade Sect and the Blood Wolf Gang have formed an alliance not too long ago.” Lin Xiao bitterly said.

“The Blood Wolf Gang!”

Upon hearing this name, Lin Dong's expression darkened. He knew that the Lin Family had kept a low enough profile over this period of time, how could they have provoked the Ghost Blade Sect. It turns out that the Blood Wolf Sect was secretly causing mischief.

“We have no concrete evidence that it was the Ghost Blade Sect, their operation was very clean. Over this period, the Lin Family and the Ghost Blade Sect have fought, and the other party have firmly denied that it was their doing. Quite a few factions are observing from the sidelines, ever since the news of our Lin Family owning a Yang Yuan Stone mining lode spread, it has drawn many gazes of ill intent. Sigh, the situation now is too chaotic, these guys are waiting for our Lin Family to be worn out before they swoop in

for an easy haul...”

“Yesterday, the Blood Wolf Gang sent a message that they can take charge and mediate between us. Humph, everything happened because of them, and now they appear to act as samaritans. Do they truly think us fools?” Lin Xia angrily said. Evidently, she was rather pissed off at the Blood Wolf Gang’s despicable methods.

Lin Dong lightly nodded his head. Deep in his eyes, a cold light surfaced. It seemed that, although he had killed Wei Tong previously, it was still not enough to allow the Lin Family to establish themselves in Yan City. Of course, the biggest contributor to this was naturally the Blood Wolf Gang’s existence. As long as they treated the Lin Family like a thorn in their eye, the other factions would not dare become too close with the Lin Family.

After all, the difference in power between the two was too large. The intimidating power of the perfect Yuan Dan stage was truly not ordinary.

“Today, grandfather and the rest have brought the Lin Family troops to the plaza in Yan City for negotiations. Fortunately, the members of the Thousand Gold Association have also went.”

“The Thousand Gold Association has also went.” Upon hearing this, Lin Dong softly sighed in relief. Although the Ghost Blade Sect might not fear the Thousand Gold Association due to the Blood Wolf Gang’s support, it would at least restrain them a little, such that they would not dare to openly bully the Lin Family through force.

“Our Lin Family’s reputation in Yan City is still not enough...” Lin Dong pursed his lips as the corners of his mouth lifted to form a cold smile.

“All of you stay here in the estate. Don’t go out. Little Flame, stay with the family. As for everything else, leave it to me.”

Lin Dong calmly spoke before abruptly turning his body. He was now irritated by the Blood Wolf Gang’s methods. Since he was unable to dispose of the Blood Wolf Gang for the time being, he would get rid of the Blood Wolf Gang’s helpers instead. He wanted to tell everyone in Yan City that when the Blood Wolf Gang turned their guns on the Lin Family, he would crush each one that came!

Faced with these vicious wolf-like guys, he could only utilise frightful methods. Only then would he gain their fear and dread!

As they gazed at Lin Dong’s back, Lin Xia and the rest opened their mouths, but in the end, they could only obediently nod their heads. Currently, Lin Dong’s influence in the Lin Family was practically comparable to Lin Zhentian’s. Not mentioning the younger generation like them, even Lin Xiao and Lin Ken would not disregard Lin Dong’s words.

The current Little Flame was already able to match up to an initial Yuan Dan stage practitioner. With it guarding the Lin Family, Lin Dong could feel reassured as he left.

After exiting through the entrance, Lin Dong checked his

directions before quickly rushing towards the city. A cold murderous look flowed in his eyes.

“Ghost blade Gui Yan, my Lin Family is not the pushover you think it is. Since you hurt my father, I will let you meet your maker!”

Chapter 147: Pieces of Crap

The city plaza was considered fairly popular in Yan City. Due to Yan City's numerous factions, many clashes often occurred. Sometimes, these kind of clashes were unable to be settled in the duel arena, therefore, this city plaza became the most direct way to settle disputes. Normally, even the city guards would not come here, because this place was truly one where both good and bad people excessively mixed together...

Today, there were quite a few of Yan City's factions gathered in the city plaza. The black mass of heads was a particularly magnificent sight.

Although there were more opportunities in Yan City compared to Qingyang Town, to obtain them was evidently no simple task. To establish themselves here, the Lin Family clearly needed to show sufficient power, especially since they had already somehow drew many envious gazes. A certain level of strength needed to be displayed!

After wantonly expanding over this period of time, the Lin Family's strength had also risen substantially. After all, with the support from the Yang Yuan Stone mining lode, they had went all out to recruit experts to their side. Or else, given the Lin Family's strength in the past, they would not dare to directly make a move against the Ghost Blade Sect.

Surrounded by numerous factions, at the center of the plaza, were the people from the Blood Wolf Gang, the Ghost Blade Sect, the Thousand Gold Association and the Lin Family, who played the

main role in this event today.

Yue Shan took the lead at the head of the Blood Wolf Gang as usual. His tall and sturdy body gave out an extremely formidable aura. No one dared to look down in the slightest on this sect leader who was one of the few perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners in Yan City.

Beside the Blood Wolf Gang, was a large group of black-clothed men. At their front was a lean man who was likewise clad in black. The man had a pair of deep set eyes and looked rather devious, his thin lips causing him to look a little cold and harsh.

This person was the leader of the Ghost Blade Sect, the number one advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner in Yan City, ghost blade Gui Yan!

“Haha, everyone, Yan City does not belong to any one person. A capable person can obtain what he deserves here. Of course, the prerequisite is that he needs to abide by some of the rules here.” Yue Shan smiled, his gaze swept across the surroundings as he took the initiative to speak.

“Haha, sect leader Yue Shan, your Blood Wolf Gang has broken quite a few rules. When said by you, these words seem like a joke.” Just as Yue Shan’s voice sounded out, Xia Wanjin casually replied.

“We are not here today to listen to you talk about rules. The Ghost Blade Sect has stolen the Yang Yuan Stones transported by the Lin Family. Truth be told, our Thousand Gold Association is

considered an ally of the Lin Family. If the Ghost Blade Sect does not going to be accountable for this, our Thousand Gold Association will not so easily let this matter rest!”

“Chairman Xia, the Ghost Blade Sect is also our Blood Wolf Gang’s ally.” Yue Shen chuckle as he casually said: “Since you’ve made your stand so clearly, I will also declare before everyone here today, if the Thousand Gold Association does anything to the Ghost Blade Sect, my Blood Wolf Gang will likewise not sit still!”

The atmosphere in the plaza immediately turned a lot more hostile as the two major faction leaders exchanged words. Many looked at each other in dismay, they originally thought that the two sides would at least exchange some pleasantries for a while, they did not expect that the situation would deteriorate so quickly.

“Though the Ghost Blade Sect is strong, my Lin Family will not allow you to bully us. You secretly robbed my Lin Family’s Yang Yuan Stones and even injured my Lin Family members. If we don’t repay this devious act, my Lin Family will no longer have the face in the future to establish ourselves in Yan City!” As the atmosphere grew tense, Lin Zhentian’s low voice rang out. However, he was rather smart, he knew that the Blood Wolf Gang was a powerful faction, thus, he only threatened.

The Ghost Blade Sect.

“Heh, old man Lin, you can eat whatever you want, but don’t say whatever you like. Since when did my Ghost Blade Sect touch your Lin Family’s Yang Yuan Stones?” In response to Lin Zhentian’s shout, the Ghost Blade Sect leader Gui Yan merely sneered. From

the looks of it, he was shamelessly denying it. Although the Lin Family knew that the Ghost Blade Sect were the culprits, they did not have any concrete evidence. And, even if they had, it would not be of much use. Rules were nothing before power, the Ghost Blade Sect were so arrogant only because they were bullying his Lin Family!

“Hehe, patriarch Lin, perhaps there is some misunderstanding. Over this period of time, the Lin Family and the Ghost Blade Sect have already exchanged blows and both parties have suffered. It is not good for this to continue, what if the city governor is angered, I’m afraid...” Yue Shan chuckled as he said.

Lin Zhentian’s, Lin Xiao’s and rest’s expressions darkened. They could sense the cynical gazes that shot towards from all around. After all, the Lin Family had a weak foundation in Yan City, they could not compare to these well-known factions like the Blood Wolf Gang and the Ghost Blade Sect.

“My Lin Family still has some backbone, no matter how large a price we pay, we must absolutely regain our face!”

Lin Zhentian took in a deep breath, his aged voice sounded exceptionally resolute. This was no longer Qingyang Town, silently bearing with it would not be advantageous for them. Within this circle of wolves, they needed to show that they were even more vicious. Or else, situations like today would definitely continue endlessly!

Upon hearing Lin Zhentian’s words, Yue Shan’s eyes slightly darkened. Evidently, he did not expect that Lin Zhentian would

actually dare to refute before this large crowd.

“Heh, old man, do you really think my Ghost Blade Sect is afraid of your Lin Family? If it was not for sect leader Yue Shan’s persuasion, your Lin Family would have likely been expelled back to Qingyang Town long ago. I’ll offer you one piece of advice, a wise man knows when to submit to circumstances!” Gui Yan maliciously chuckled as he said.

“Gui Yan, You are getting bolder and bolder!”

Xia Wanjin’s expression turned icy, he suddenly stepped forward as his fist smashed at the air that separated them. a powerful gale directly tore through the air as it flashed towards Gui Yan.

“Bang!”

The powerful gale did not hit Gui Yan as intended. This was because, just as Xia Wanjin made his move, the long prepared Yue Shan took two steps forward, his sleeves waved as he directly received the gale without budging an inch.

“Chairman Xia, everyone was called here today mainly to negotiate and settle this issue. These kind of actions are no good right?” Yue Shan coldly said.

“Humph, sect leader Yue Shan, you can’t possibly call this resolving an issue, it’s more akin to pressuring others with your influence!” To Xia Wanjin’s side, Xuan Su icily said.

Yue Shan chuckled as his gaze turned towards the Lin Family: “I have an appropriate idea, perhaps, the Ghost Blade Sect was indeed wrong in this matter, I can allow them to make amends in front of everyone here.”

Upon hearing these words, Lin Zhentian did not relax but instead turned vigilant. He did not believe that Yue Shan truly intended to help them.

“How about this, in the future, the Yang Yuan Stones mined by the Lin Family will be escorted directly by the Ghost Blade Sect. At that time, you only need to split a little of the profits with them, heh heh, I believe that this way, the Ghost Blade Sect will definitely properly cooperate with the Lin Family. I dare to guarantee that within several hundred miles of Yan City, no one would dare to touch your Lin Family’s convey! How about that?”

“You’re going too far!”

Upon hearing Yue Shan’s so-called appropriate idea, Lin Zhentian the rest immediately turned white with anger. Even the fiery tempered Lin Mang’s eyes turned blood red with anger. This bastard planned to split up their Lin Family’s Yang Yuan Stone mining lode through a few glib words!

“Sect leader Yue Shan, your idea is truly appropriate indeed!” Xuan Su coldly replied in mockery. One could tell that the Blood Wolf Gang were already eyeing the Lin Family’s Yang Yuan Stone lode. It was likely that the perpetrator of this chain of events was

Yue Shan.

“My Lin Family really appreciates sect leader Yue Shan’s idea.” Lin Zhentian endured the rage in his heart as he uttered in a low voice.

“Alright, since all of you don’t understand my feelings, then let this matter be settled by the Lin Family and the Ghost Blade Sect. However, I will say this first, no outside should meddle in this matter, or else, my Blood Wolf Gang will definitely not sit still. Even if my Blood Wolf Gang becomes enemies with the Thousand Gold Association in the end, it would be unavoidable.” Their response was not out of Yue Shan’s expectations as he indifferently smiled and said.

Xia Wanjin’s eyes narrowed. In the end, Yue Shan planned to use this point to suppress their Thousand Gold Association. After all, although the Lin Family’s strength had grown over this period of time, they was still some distance between them and the Ghost Blade Sect. Of course, most importantly, the Ghost Blade Sect possessed an expert like Gui Yan. Though Xia Wanjin did not like the latter, even he had no choice but to admit that Gui Yan’s strength was indeed number one among Yan City’s advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioners. Even Wei Tong could not match up to this man.

Thus, if the Thousand Gold Association did not interfere, the Lin Family would definitely pay a huge price in the fight with the Ghost Blade Sect.

Yue Shan and the rest obviously knew this, which was why they

had thought of all kinds of methods to suppress the Thousand Gold Association. It seems like these guys had spent quite a lot of time to prepare this plan.

After all, even if the Thousand Gold Association truly made a move for the Lin Family, at that time, as long as the Blood Wolf Gang stepped in to delay the Thousand Gold Association, the Lin Family would still have to face the Ghost Blade Sect alone. When that moment comes, some bastards who wanted take advantage of this crisis might also appear. This would cause the already unfavorable situation for the Lin Family to take a turn for the worse.

As they gazed at the scene which had suddenly turned a little quieter, many of the surrounding factions quietly shook their heads. The Lin Family had finally tasted some of the retribution from offending the Blood Wolf Gang. This time, probably have to pay a huge price in blood to settle this issue.

From what they could tell, the Blood Wolf Gang and the Ghost Blade Sect were after the Lin Family's mining lode. With regards to this, though they were envious, they could not do anything about it. The Lin Family's power had risen very swiftly, besides the Ghost Blade Sect, there were not many factions besides the top three factions who could completely suppress the Lin Family...

Gui Yan's deviously gazed at the extremely ugly expressions on Lin Zhentian and the rest. He could not help but let out a weird laugh as he lazily said: "You should quickly make your decision. We do not have much time, no matter your choice, my Ghost Blade Sect will accompany you to the end."

Within Lin Zhentian's and the rest's gloomy expressions, a vicious light was faintly discernable.

"I heard that your Lin Family has a very capable brat that has even managed to kill Wei Tong. I feel that you should try and pass this decision to him." Gui Yan tilted his head as his weird laughter rang out.

Upon hearing Gui Yan's provocations, the raging flames in Lin Ken's and the rest's eyes finally could not help but overflow. However, just as they were about to shout out, an icy chuckle was suddenly heard from outside the plaza. Soon after, a figure strode through the air and landed before the Lin Family crowd under everyone's astonished gazes.

"You pieces of crap, do you think you are fit to share my Lin Family's mining lode?"

Chapter 148: Pointers

The sudden arrival of this chuckle was especially ear-piercing within the tense atmosphere. Thus, when that figure appeared, numerous gazes were immediately cast towards it.

“Lin Dong?!”

When these gazes saw the young figure that had arrived in front of Lin Zhentian and the rest, they were all stumped. Soon after, whispers broke out. Over this period of time, because Lin Dong had killed Wei Tong, his reputation in Yan City was rather good. Everyone knew that the strongest member within the Lin Family was not Lin Zhentian, but this youngster who was not even twenty years of age!

“Dong-er!”

Upon seeing Lin Dong make an appearance at this time, Lin Zhentian, Lin Xiao and the rest were delighted. Unwittingly, the weight this youngster before them had in their hearts had become heavier and heavier.

“Father, are you alright?” Lin Dong ignored the numerous gazes as his eyes turned back towards Lin Xiao. The latter’s complexion was indeed a little pale, immediately, a chill surfaced in Lin Dong’s eyes.

“It’s not too bad.” Lin Xiao shook his head as he sighed: “It’s good that you’re back, over this period of time, many things have

happened.”

“I know, leave it to me.” Lin Dong lightly nodded his head as he said: “Was it Gui Yan who injured you?”

Lin Xiao gave a pained smile as he nodded his head.

“You brat, I even thought that you had went missing!” To one side, Xuan Su also swiftly walked over as she rolled her eyes at Lin Dong, a little miffed as she exclaimed.

“Many thanks to big sister Su and chairman Xia.” Lin Dong respectfully clasped his hands towards Xuan Su and Xia Wanjin as he thanked them.

“Hehe, what’s the point of these words.” Xia Wanjin was all smiles as he spread out his hands before his eyebrows lightly furrowed: “This current matter is indeed a little thorny. The Blood Wolf Gang and the Ghost Blade Sect have joined hands to go after the Lin Family’s mining lode. From the looks of it, this was rather well planned...”

“In the end, your grudge with the Blood Wolf Gang is my Thousand Gold Association’s responsibility. If they try anything funny, my Thousand Gold Association will definitely step forward to stop them, but, the Ghost Blade Sect will take the opportunity to deal with your Lin Family.”

“If it is truly no good, my Thousand Gold Association will release

the Thousand Gold call and recruit troops to duke it out with the Blood Wolf Gang and the Ghost Blade Sect!” A cold light flitted across Xuan Su’s beautiful eyes as she spoke.

“Many thanks, however, we need not go that far. Our Lin Family can handle this Ghost Blade Sect.” Lin Dong chuckled as he replied.

“Lin Dong, this is no trifling matter, Gui Yan is known as the number one advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner in Yan City. Even Wei Tong would not dare to cross him. Don’t force yourself!” Upon hearing these words, Xia Wanjin expression turned serious as he said.

Lin Dong slightly smiled, if this had happened a month before, perhaps he would truly be quite fearful of this so-called number one person among Yan City’s advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioners, but now...

“Are you the one who killed Wei Tong, Lin Dong?”

While Lin Dong was talking to Xia Wanjin and the rest, Gui Yan seemed to have recognized him. The latter exchanged a look with Yue Shan before asking in an indifferent manner.

After hearing his voice, Lin Dong also turned his head and stared at Gui Yan as the smile on the former’s face slowly vanished.

“Since you are able to make a decision, give us a clear-cut answer to today’s matter. As long as the Yang Yuan Stones mined by your

Lin Family is escorted by my Ghost Blade Sect in the future, I guarantee that no one will dare to touch it!”

Gui Yan deviously gazed at Lin Dong, the smile on the former’s face was rather ugly: “Of course, if you are not willing, we will not force you. However, you should be careful in the future, all of the Yang Yuan Stones you mined will probably no longer be transported out...”

His last few words were clearly an undisguised threat, causing Lin Zhentian and the rest to turn white with anger.

“Sect leader Gui Yan, looks like you are very interested in my Lin Family’s Yang Yuan Stone mining lode, am I right?” Lin Dong calmly said.

“If your Lin Family had obediently stayed to lord over your Qingyang Town, perhaps, no one would find out. However, since you wishfully planned on establishing yourselves in Yan City, I will have to teach you about Yan City’s rules!” Gui Yan evilly laughed.

“These so-called rules are merely about whose fist is bigger. Sect leader Gui Yan, a prostitute does not need to carry a signboard right? We are all learned people here, why bother beating about the bush?” Lin Dong wore a fake smile as he said.

Upon hearing Lin Dong’s ruthless and mocking words, Gui Yan’s expression suddenly turned chilly. In Yan City, there were very few people who dared to talk to him this way...

“It seems like your Lin Family does not wish to adopt my Ghost Blade Sect’s and the Blood Wolf Gang’s kind proposal?”

“No need to trouble you, I will resolve my Lin Family’s transportation problem.” Lin Dong replied in an indifferent manner.

“Hehe, truly a heroic youngster. I, Yue Shan, have spent many years in Yan City, but, this is the first time that I’ve seen a youngster as wild as you.” Yue Shan icily smiled as a dark look slowly surfaced in his eyes.

“Lin Dong, don’t think that with the Thousand Gold Association’s support, you can do as you please in Yan City. Or else, you will have no chance to regret when you face the painful consequences.”

“Many thanks for sect leader Yue Shan’s teachings.” Lin Dong clasped his hands together as he earnestly said.

“Since the Lin Family does not appreciate our kindness, let these negotiations come to an end.” Yue Shan chuckled before turning to leave. As they saw his smiling expression, some of the ones who were more familiar with his temperament could not help but secretly sigh. They cast gazes of pity towards Lin Dong, this young one was indeed capable, however, he seemed to have a somewhat exaggerated opinion of his own abilities...

Gui Yan licked his lips and chuckled as he stared at Lin Dong, while planning to take his men and leave. He already intended to

massacre the Lin Family after first going back to discuss with the Blood Wolf Gang.

“Wait.”

However, just as Gui Yan turned, Lin Dong once again spoke out.

“Yes? Did you change your mind?” Yue Shan and Gui Yan paused in their step as they sneered.

“The Ghost Blade Sect has stolen my Lin Family’s Yang Yuan Stones and injured both my father and first uncle. Did you really plan to leave like this?” Lin Dong cocked his head as he smiled.

When Lin Dong’s words left his mouth, the plaza immediately turned silent. One by one, astonished gazes turned towards the former. Although everyone knew that negotiations this time had already fallen apart, was this action of Lin Dong’s purposely provoking the Ghost Blade Sect? Did he not know that if he really enraged Gui Yan, would there be anyone from their Lin Family who was able to stop him?

As the implicated party, Gui Yan was likewise stunned. He did not expect that before he could find an excuse to make a move against the Lin Family, this Lin Dong would actually take the initiative to start something.

“Lin Dong!”

Xuan Su hastily said in a low voice: “Don’t be rash, we can return first to discuss this!”

Lin Zhentian and the rest looked to each other in dismay, however, they did not say anything in the end. They had quite a good amount of faith in Lin Dong and understood that Lin Dong was no fool, if he was not certain, he would never say these kind of words.

“The Blood Wolf Gang and the Ghost Blade Sect plans to chop my Lin Family to pieces. But due to the Thousand Gold Association, the Blood Wolf Gang will not make a move for the time being. They intend to use the Ghost Blade Sect to suppress my Lin Family, as for the Ghost Blade Sect, although they seem strong, most of their strength lies with Gui Yan. As long as I can defeat him, the Ghost Blade Sect will collapse in a single blow!” Lin Dong softly said.

“Gui Yan is not Wei Tong! Not only is that guy known as the number one advanced Yuan Dan stage expert, he is also the one who has the highest chance of advancing to the perfect Yuan Dan stage in the past few years!” Xuan Sun hurriedly said.

Lin Dong slightly smiled and did not explain.

“You can deal with Gui Yan?” Xia Wanjin’s eyes lightly twinkled as if he had realized something while he asked in a low voice.

“How is that possible!” Xuan Su interjected in alarm.

“I know what I’m doing. Don’t worry, I don’t take chances.” Lin Dong lightly smiled before slowly walking forward under the crowd’s attentive gazes.

“Gui Yan, return all the Yang Yuan Stones to the Lin Family and apologize before everyone here. Perhaps, I will drop this matter.”

“Heh heh, you little bastard, it seems you’ve yet to wake up from your dreams.” Upon hearing Lin Dong’s words, Gui Yan’s face involuntarily twitched as he sinisterly said.

To one side, Yue Shan’s eyebrows lightly furrowed. Evidently, he did not expect that Lin Dong would do such a foolish thing. Such foolish words, did he think that just because he killed Wei Tong, his reputation had become so unfathomably high in Yan City?

“Sect leader Yue Shan, looks like we do not need to discuss this any further. Can I dispose of this brat now?” Gui Yan looked towards Yue Shan as he maliciously smiled.

As the leader of the Ghost Blade Sect, he was truly unable to endure how insolent this brat before him was!

“Sigh...”

Upon seeing the murderous look in Gui Yan’s eyes, Yue Shan secretly sneered in his heart. On the surface, he seemed to sigh helplessly as he spoke: “Lin Dong, you’ve caused the downfall of the Lin Family...”

“Chairman Xia, you should have nothing to say about this matter right?” As his words fell, Yue Shan looked towards Xia Wanjin as he casually asked.

“You!”

Xuan Su’s long, shapely eyebrows straightened, just as she was about to retort, Xia Wanjin stretched out a hand and stopped her. His gaze concentrated on Lin Dong, moments later, he slowly nodded and said: “Let this matter be settled by the Lin Family and the Ghost Blade Sect, the Thousand Gold Association and the Blood Wolf Gang shall not interfere!”

Upon hearing these words, Xuan Su was greatly alarmed. Just as she was about to speak, Xia Wanjin’s voice softly sounded out in her ears: “Believe in Lin Dong. He is not a reckless person.”

“Haha, naturally.”

After seeing that Xia Wanjin had actually agreed, Yue Shan was a little shocked. He felt that there was something fishy but he could not pinpoint what it was. Immediately, he chuckled and looked towards Gui Yan: “I shall let you settle this matter, take extra care!”

The last few words were heavily emphasized by Yue Shan and Gui Yan likewise understood as he sneered before slowly nodding his head. If he was able to finish off Lin Dong, the number one expert in the Lin Family, the Lin Family would fall apart!

Under the gazes of everyone present, Gui Yan strolled forward. Soon after, he cast a malicious gaze towards Lin Dong as a devious smile appeared: “Brat, today I will let you know that even if you have defeated Wei Tong, you are still a nobody in this Yan City!”

“Yan City is no place for a country bumpkin like you. It would be best that you quickly run back to Qingyang Town!”

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong smiled as he slowly stretched out his hand.

“So much rubbish. Please, give me some pointers!”

Chapter 149: Doing Battle with Gui Yan

“Arrogant fool!”

When he saw Lin Dong’s calm appearance, the maliciousness in Gui Yan’s eyes intensified. His hand flicked and then grasped onto a black sabre that had appeared in his palm. The sound of his blade sheathing, coupled with its ghastly ghost tattoos created an eerie atmosphere.

Gui Yan was also nicknamed as ‘Ghost Blade’ in Yan City as his blade techniques were extremely vicious and cunning. All these years, numerous elite practitioner had met their maker at his hands. In addition, some of them were even at the advanced Yuan Dan stage. Therefore, his reputation was several times greater than Wei Tong’s. In fact, most people acknowledge that he was the most likely candidate to advance to the perfect Yuan Dan stage. At that time, the Ghost Blade Sect’s reputation in Yan City would skyrocket!

Due to this reason, even though many people knew that Lin Dong had once personally slayed Wei Tong, they did not favor him against Gui Yan.

After all, Wei Tong really cannot hold a candle to Gui Yan.

As he faced those people who were secretly celebrating his misfortune, Lin Dong chose to ignore them. As he lifted his palm, four blades flew out from his Qiankun bag. Out of these four blades, three were emitting an ice-cold Qi, while the remaining one

gave out a scorching heat. The blades circled and danced around Lin Dong's body, causing many after images to be seen.

“Lin Dong, be careful!”

When she saw that Lin Dong was truly prepared to fight against Gui Yan, Xuan Su involuntarily cried out.

Lin Dong gently nodded his head as he waved his hand at Xuan Su and the rest.

“Such an arrogant brat. Well you wanted an explanation right? I will give you an explanation!” The corners of Gui Yan's lips drew back, as a hideous expression surfaced on his face. An exceptionally potent Yuan Power undulated on his body, just like a tidal wave. Meanwhile, a menacing atmosphere began to emerge!

“Such a powerful aura. It seems like Gui Yan will soon advance to the perfect Yuan Dan stage!” As they felt the aura from Gui Yan's body, a chorus erupted outside the grounds.

“This person is indeed much stronger than Wei Tong!”

A look of surprise flashed across Lin Dong's eyes. This so-called number one advanced Yuan Dan practitioner was indeed capable. Based on this aura alone, one could tell that Wei Tong had nothing on him.

“Swoosh!”

With a sabre in hand, Gui Yan's gaze turned increasingly malicious. As he glared straight at Lin Dong, his foot jutted forward before he immediately turned into a black shadow and dashed towards the latter at lightning speed. The long sabre in his hand arced in a formidable manner, as he viciously swung his blade at an extremely tricky angle which ruthlessly chopped towards Lin Dong.

“Clang!”

In response to Gui Yan's powerful charge, Lin Dong remained still. He jutted his fingers out as the three Mysterious Ice Swords hovering around him immediately exploded forth. They carried a menacing chill as they withstood the sabre's attack, before they suddenly turned. Icy-cold blades furiously stabbed out.

Even though his swordsmanship was not stellar, thanks to Lin Dong's Mental Energy control, the attack was still quite formidable. The trajectory of his attacks were almost impossible to escape. And this, was one of the perks of using Mental Energy.

“Clang clang!”

As he felt that bone-chilling sword aura, Gui Yan snorted. The sabre in his hand suddenly danced as it directly transformed into numerous blade after images which completely surrounded his body. Meanwhile, a dazzling blade strike also shot out, causing anyone who saw it to experience goosebumps.

“Ghastly Chop!”

The blade flashed before abruptly returning. With both hands on his sabre, an exceptionally powerful Pure Yuangang energy swiftly gathered on the sabre, before he violently chopped down!

“Clang!”

The bright and formidable blade strike was just like a ferocious dragon, as it swept out from the tip of the sabre, causing the leading Mysterious Ice Sword to be directly jolted away. Wherever the blade strike passed by, the ground below was forcefully sliced apart.

“Such a powerful blade attack!”

As they stared at this formidable attack, several people exclaimed in surprise. No ordinary advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner would dare to receive this blow directly.

That blade strike was akin to an enraged python, as it swiftly grew larger in Lin Dong’s eyes. However, unexpectedly, even at this juncture, he still did not retreat a single step. Instead, he extended his right palm towards the incoming formidable blade strike. It looked as if he planned to receive it directly!

“You are courting death!”

When he saw this sight, a look of malice surfaced on Gui Yan’s

face.

“Swoosh!”

Just as that blade strike was inches away from hitting Lin Dong's body, the latter suddenly clenched his fist!

“Buzz!”

When Lin Dong gripped his palm, a Mental Energy barrier was immediately formed before him. Meanwhile, that blade strike clashed violently against the Mental Energy barrier. Even though it managed to cause ripples on that barrier, it did not in the slightest bit succeed in splitting open the Mental Energy barrier!

As they stared at that dazzling blade strike that was unable to make any progress, a look of bewilderment surfaced in the crowd's eyes. They never expected that Gui Yan's formidable attack was so easily deflected by Lin Dong.

“Lin Dong's Mental Energy... has become stronger again!”

Xia Wanjin, Xuan Su, Lin Zhentian and the rest were likewise shocked. Promptly, a look of delight surfaced on their faces. In less than a month, Lin Dong's Mental Energy had evidently swelled at an extreme rate again. It was no wonder that he dared to provoke Gui Yan.

“The number one advanced Yuan Dan practitioner doesn't seem

like much!”

As he stared at that formidable blade attack that was being gradually corroded by his Mental Energy barrier, Lin Dong coldly smiled. With a flick of his finger, dozens of Spiritual Needles swiftly formed in front of him, before they were directed towards Gui Yan amidst a the sounds of breaking through the air.

“Humph, you talk big!”

When he saw that Lin Dong had easily neutralized his attack, Gui Yan’s pupils shrank slightly, as his facial expression finally turned somewhat more serious. He could deduce that compared to one month ago, when Lin Dong was combating Wei Tong, the former’s strength seemed to have increased again.

The fact that he had reached this stage in Yan City indicated that Gui Yan was not a person that would lose because he underestimated his enemy. Even though he was displeased by Lin Dong, in his heart, he remained highly cautious. Furthermore, this scene now made it clear that it was vital to remain cautious.

“Buzz buzz!”

A powerful Pure Yuangang energy gushed out from Gui Yan body, before they rushed forth like a tidal wave and completely dissolved all the incoming Spiritual Needles. Then, his eyes suddenly hardened as he tightly gripped onto the sabre in his right palm before he slightly bent his body. Right now, he was exactly like a leopard which was about to pounce on its prey, filled with

the intention to strike.

“Buzz!”

When the tip of Gui Yan’s foot rubbed against the ground, a deep echo sounded out. Then, his body violently stepped forward.

Swish! Swish!

When Gui Yan’s body flashed forward, two other after images immediately surfaced behind him. However, what surprised everyone was that when each after image appeared, the glint that gathered on his blade became increasingly terrifying!

“Three-Step Ghastly Shadow Blade!”

When they saw this sight, Xuan Su’s and the rest’s facial expressions turned serious. This was Gui Yan’s signature killing move. It was said that he used this move to kill two advanced Yuan Dan stage experts!

This move was split into three steps. When the third after image appeared, his attack would reach its peak. Among all the advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioners in Yan City, there was probably no one who dared to receive this move!

“Lin Dong, be careful! He intends to give the killing blow!”

Even without Xuan Su's reminder, Lin Dong could sense the terrifying force gathering on Gui Yan's blade. Immediately, his eyes flashed, as the tip of his foot tapped against the ground and his body lept into mid-air. Hopping onto a Mysterious Ice Sword, a Mental Energy wave was suddenly released from within his pupils.

When that Mental Energy shockwave emerged, it violently expanded and spread across the air. Meanwhile, like a tidal wave, powerful Mental Energy continued to pour out from his Niwan palace!

“Buzz buzz!”

As he continuously injected Mental Energy, that Mental Energy shockwave began to grow rapidly. In the blink of an eye, it had turned into a wide Mental Energy symbol formation that was several feet long. Inside that formation were several strange symbols. These mystical symbols appeared all over the formation as they continuously flickered.

Qi grade Secret Spirit Skill, Manifestation Symbol Array.

Lin Dong had finally utilized the Secret Spirit Skill that he had obtained from Symbol Master Tower!

When that symbol formation appeared, an extremely powerful Mental Energy undulation began to spread out. That undulation caused even Xia Wanjin and Yue Shan to be slightly shocked.

Swoosh!

When that symbol formation appeared, down below, Gui Yan's third shadow also surfaced. As he lifted his head in shock, he stared maliciously at Lin Dong, who was hovering in mid air, as his palm suddenly slammed against the sabre's handle.

A blinding blade shadow emerged, just like a beam of light, as an exceedingly formidable Pure Yuangang energy swiftly gathered on it. Then, like a mini hurricane, under the astonished gazes of the crowd, it tore through the air and flew towards Lin Dong.

“Lin Dong, prepare to die!”

As his long sabre left his hand, a pale parlour surfaced on his face. Even though this attack was exceedingly formidable, it took a major toll on him. Nonetheless, he had absolute confidence in this move. This was because, even an advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner would be unable to withstand it!

Lin Dong's body was hovering below the Manifestation Symbol Array. Although he sensed the terrifying attack that was rapidly approaching him, he chose to slowly shut his eyes.

“Buzz buzz!”

As Lin Dong shut his eyes, numerous unique light rays were emitted by the Manifestation Symbol Array. These light rays shot out from within the symbol formation, before they gathered

rapidly in front of Lin Dong, just like a column of light.

The instant that light column took shape, Lin Dong's gently shut eyes suddenly sprung open. Contained within his eyes were a formidable glint. As he faced Gui Yan's all-out attack, he did not have the slightest intention of retreating. To the astonishment of the crowd, he suddenly thrust out his fingers.

“Manifestation Symbol Formation, manifest light!”

Chapter 150: The Might of the Manifestation Symbol Array

Vigorous Mental Energy took shape at the tip of Lin Dong's finger before rays of light burst out. A terrifying Mental Energy undulation spouted forth like a volcano.

The originally formless Mental Energy had become every more resplendent than sunshine at this moment. In the end, the pillar of light which had been formed by the vigorous Mental Energy cut open the air like a meteor. Under the numerous gazes of the crowd, it crashed into Gui Yan's formidable blade attack with a loud bang!

“Boom!”

In that instance, a frightening wave of energy immediately exploded in the air like a flood. Besides a few stronger ones, some of the nearer onlookers were unable to endure this oppressive pressure as they hastily backed away.

“Break!”

Lin Dong wore a harsh expression on his face as he gazed at where the energy wave had spread. With a stern shout, the might of the Mental Energy light beam, which was formed completely from extremely condensed Mental Energy, rose sharply. As rays of light shined even more resplendently, it directly rushed forward and forcefully tore through Gui Yan's extremely powerful blade attack under the astonished gazes of the crowd.

“How is this possible?!”

As they gazed at this scene in the sky, cries of alarm immediately exploded from the crowd. Gui Yan’s powerful finishing move was actually still unable to stop Lin Dong’s attack?

“Such a strong Mental Energy undulation!”

Shock surfaced on Xia Wanjin’s, Xuan Su’s and the rest’s faces. Even a normal third seal Symbol Master could not compare to this Mental Energy undulation. Could Lin Dong really have grown this strong in this short month?

“Great!”

Delight was revealed on Lin Zhentian, Lin Xiao and the rest.

“Disgraceful!”

Compared to their delight, Gui Yan’s expression had turned extremely twisted in that instance. He gazed at the strange light beam that had not only ripped apart his attack, but was also frantically rushing towards him as he cursed. His palm reached out and sucked the fallen sabre into his hand as the vigorous Yuan Power inside his body rapidly gushed out before gathering on the blade.

“Swish!”

Gui Yan tightly gripped the sabre with both hands as he furiously chopped downwards. Pure Yuangang energy condensed on the blade making it akin to the sharpest killing weapon. The blade sliced through the air as it tore a huge crack on the ground.

“Bang!”

The sabre streaked through the air and ruthlessly hacked at the falling Mental Energy light beam.

At the moment of contact, an indescribable energy swiftly washed over the blade like a tide. Under the corrosion of that energy, Gui Yan’s Pure Yuangang energy was actually unable to achieve even the slightest obstructing effect before it crumbled, while that terrifying energy poured onto his body like a torrent.

“Pu Chi!”

Gui Yan’s face instantly turned deathly white. Soon after, it flushed red as a mouthful of blood was directly spit out. His body was also blown backwards by that huge force and slid dozens of meters on the floor before heavily crashing into a stone pillar.

The outcome of the battle was decided in a flash. The crowd only saw the two formidable flashes before Gui Yan’s sorry figure was already pushed back...

“Sss!”

As they gazed at Gui Yan’s battered figure, who spouted blood from his mouth, the atmosphere in the plaza lapsed into silence for a moment. Soon after, a series of gasps rang out.

They never expected that this number one advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner in Yan City, Gui Yan, would not even be Lin Dong’s match!

“This guy...is really strong!”

Many of the factions, which were originally eyeing the Lin Family’s mining lode, gazed at the figure of the youth, who stood on a sword and floated in mid-air, as their expressions fluctuated, before they slowly started to restrain the greed in their hearts. Even an elite like Gui Yan had fallen at Lin Dong’s hands today, anyone else who went would only disgrace himself!

“Creak!”

Meanwhile, Yue Shan’s expression also darkened, even as he forcefully suppressed the waves in his heart, his fists still suddenly clenched as they emitted a creaking sound.

He knew that Lin Dong was not weak, thus, after a round of selection, he had found Gui Yan. Even Yue Shan himself had acknowledged Gui Yan’s strength. Originally, he had thought that Lin Dong would be definitely be completely defeated this time.

Instead, the sight before his eyes caused his originally burning heart to instantly turn ice-cold.

“How is this possible...how is this possible?!”

While Yue Shan’s expression darkened, Gui Yan once again spit out a mouthful of fresh blood. His eyes were filled with disbelief, he could not understand why he had been defeated so swiftly and cleanly...

When Lin Dong struck previously, Gui Yan had actually been unable to defend much!

“I refuse to believe it!”

Fresh blood wildly sprayed as Gui Yan’s expression turned malevolent, he howled out but as he did so, he was again affected by his injuries as fresh blood once more over spilled from the corners of his mouth.

In the air, Lin Dong coldly stared at Gui Yan. The former stretched out a finger and lightly pointed at Gui Yan below. Three Mysterious Ice Swords brought a potent cold Qi with them as they violently stabbed down, Lin Dong never had any trouble with putting down an already fallen enemy!

“Stop!”

Upon seeing that Lin Dong was actually going to give the fatal

blow, Yue Shan finally could not help but violently shout out. Previously, Wei Tong had been killed by Lin Dong right before his eyes. If even Gui Yan met a similar fate this time, there would perhaps be no one left who dared to collaborate with him in the future!

After being in contact for this period of time, Yue Shan also understood that although Lin Dong was young, he did not weaken in the slightest when it was time to take another's life. Therefore, Yue Shan did not naively believe that Lin Dong would stop just because he shouted. Thus, before his shout faded away, his body flashed and directly appeared in front of Gui Yan.

“Yue Shan!”

Upon seeing that Yue Shan had broken the rules and interfered, Xia Wanjin's expression darkened. However, just as he was about to step in, Lin Dong's voice sounded out in the air: “Chairman Xia, leave this to me.”

After hearing these words, Xia Wanjin was startled, Lin Dong actually wanted to deal with Yue Shan? But, he was a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner!

“Humph!”

Lin Dong's words were likewise heard by Yue Shan. Immediately, a cold light flashed in his eyes, but he did not show too much anger as he first deflected the Mysterious Ice Swords with a fist, before his body slightly lowered. Like an unbudgeable mountain, a steady

mountain-like presence gushed out.

“Mountain Fist!”

Yue Shan was not a simple man, he knew that this was an excellent chance. Lin Dong was having delusions of wanting to fight with the former, thus, this was a golden opportunity to finish him off. Immediately, a vigorous Pure Yuangang energy, that made one shiver, swiftly gathered at Yue Shan’s fist, before it suddenly thrust out!

A bright and resplendent ball of light burst out from Yue Shan’s fist. As it swept forward, it seemed to lengthen and shorten, faintly, it seemed to look a little like a mountain!

“This Yue Shan, has actually gradually grasped the meaning of form creation!” Upon seeing this, Xia Wanjin’s expression turned serious. The so-called form creation was one of the unavoidable paths to reach the three Creation stage, only when one understood the meaning of form creation, would one be able to advance to the first stage of the three Creation stage, the Form Creation stage!

“Lin Dong, withdraw quickly!” While his expression turned serious, Xia Wanjin also hurriedly shouted out. This move of Yue Shan clearly intended to take Lin Dong’s life!

Lin Dong did not to this advice. At this moment, a passionate excitement surface in his eyes, Yue Shan was considered as the true top expert in Yan City. Currently, Lin Dong had advanced to the third seal Symbol Master stage, plus, he had his strange Destiny

Soul Symbol and the power of an initial Yuan Dan stage practitioner. He planned to test if he was able to do battle with a perfect Yuan Dan stage expert!

“Huu!”

A ball of white Qi was spit out from Lin Dong’s mouth. Inside his Niwan Palace, resplendent rays burst out from the three Destiny Soul Symbols, Mental Energy was like a tide as it gushed out and poured into the symbol array above his head.

Crash! Crash!

As Mental Energy poured in, the sound of flowing water actually sounded out from within the Manifestation Symbol Array. Quickly, a seemingly solid Mental Energy suddenly exploded out and directly transformed into to a huge wave as rumbling sounds echoed out in mid-air.

“Manifest, azure wave!”

The huge wave gushed about. Lin Dong’s eyes flashed as the Mental Energy wave rumbled with an astonishing might as it flowed forward and heavily crashed into Yue Shan’s energy fist, which seemed to look a little like a mountain.

“Boom!”

A loud and clear noise resounded in the air. Strong gales rippled

outwards to sweep away everything. In the face of this force, even a Yuan Dan stage practitioner felt that it was hard to breath.

“Bang!”

This time, Lin Dong’s attack did not overwhelm like before. The huge Mental Energy wave was only barely able to resist Yue Shan’s fist attack, before it burst apart.

While the huge Mental Energy wave scattered, the Mental Energy symbol array above Lin Dong’s head was also affected. It heaved and surged for a while before gradually turning dim and then completely fading away.

A perfect Yuan Dan stage expert was indeed incomparable to an advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner!

“This Lin Dong...such terrifying power, to think that he was almost able to contend against Yue Shan!”

“Yes, although he did not gain the upperhand, this Lin Dong is still so young.”

“This Lin Family is really something, we must not offend them in future...”

Lin Dong did not completely lose against Yue Shan, this scene undoubtedly caused waves to rise in quite a few people’s hearts. As they exchanged looks, fear could be seen in each and everyone’s

eyes.

Upon hearing the surrounding whispers, Yue Shan's expression also turned extremely dark. The Mental Energy Lin Dong had displayed previously, had already surpassed that of a third seal Symbol Master...

At this age, even Yue Shan himself felt a little chill at this achievement!

This brat must be killed today!

"You are still not my match!" As this thought churned in his mind, Yue Shan stared up at Lin Dong, while he declared in a deep voice.

"That may not be so."

After hearing this, Lin Dong slightly smiled, shortly, his finger pointed down.

Upon seeing Lin Dong's action, Yue Shan seemed to have sensed something. His expression abruptly changed as he hastily turned around. His pupils shrunk as he saw a sharp sword, which emitted a cold Qi, darting through the air like a poisonous snake, as it ruthlessly stabbed towards the already injured Gui Yan!

While Yue Shan was tangled in the fight, Lin Dong had actually split a portion of his will to give Gui Yan a mortal blow!

This kind of thinking and ability was truly terrifying!

Chapter 151: The Four Great Factions

“You dare!”

As he gazed at the sword suddenly shoot towards Gui Yan, a chill flashed across Yue Shan’s heart before it turned to red-hot rage. If he was not able to stop Lin Dong even after he had interfered, in the future, who would dare to join hands with the Blood Wolf Gang?

Yue Shan was extremely experienced, while the shout left his mouth, his palm ferociously swatted out, as Pure Yuangang Energy gushed forth, tearing through the air to furiously slap at the sword.

The powerful Pure Yuangang energy forcefully caused the trajectory of the sword to deviate. Although Lin Dong’s actions were exceedingly unexpected, Yue Shan was still after all rather powerful.

As he gazed at the sword which had been jolted off course, Lin Dong’s eyes flashed as the sword turned. The sharp blade seemed to transform into a dazzling flash as it swept towards Gui Yan’s arm like lightning.

“Chi!”

The ear-piercing sound of a sword entering flesh quietly echoed out in the plaza as it flew while leaving behind a trail of blood and a cut off arm!

“Ah!”

A scream also rang out in that instance. As they gazed at Gui Yan, who was hugging the remains of his cut off arm, a chill arose in everyone’s hearts.

No one had believed that with Yue Shan personally interfering, Gui Yan would still lose an arm. Though he kept his life, with this kind of injury, Gui Yan’s power would definitely drop. The might of the Ghost Blade Sect hinged upon Gui Yan’s strength, once he received a heavy injury, the reputation of the Ghost Blade Sect would definitely plunge...

“You bastard, I will definitely slaughter you today!”

As he gazed at this scene, Yue Shan’s eyes turned scarlet. The sole of his foot abruptly stepped off the ground as his body violently dashed forward, transforming into an arrow, which flew towards Lin Dong. An extremely overwhelming Yuan Power undulation burst out from the former’s body.

“Humph, Yue Shan, are you really going to treat me as if I don’t exist?!”

Upon seeing that Yue Shan wanted to use his full strength against Lin Dong, Xia Wanjin’s expression turned frosty as his figure flashed and appeared in front of Lin Dong. Though a perfect Yuan Dan stage expert could not fly, he was capable of floating for short bursts of time.

“Xia Wanjin, get lost!”

Yue Shan was clearly furious at Lin Dong’s actions, when he saw Xia Wanjin step in, Yue Shan not only refused to retreat, but even shouted out in a stern voice.

In response to his shout, Xia Wanjin merely snorted. Bright Yuan Power frantically gathered on his hands before he straightaway punched out.

“Mmmm!”

As this fist punched out, an ear-piercing sonic boom rang out in the skies. The formidable pressure of the Yuan Power spread out in the air, causing quite a few people’s expressions to turn concentrated.

“Bang!”

In response to Xia Wanjin’s move, Yue Shan also abruptly punched out. Both fists interweaved in mid-air, emitting a tremendous noise as a terrifying Yuan Power undulation erupted. In the end, the crowd watched as the two figures were pushed a dozen steps back before finally landing on the ground.

As perfect Yuan Dan stage experts, and also opponents who had fought countless times, It was evidently rather difficult to decide the victor.

“Sect leader Yue Shan, there is no need to be so furious. We already agreed not to interfere beforehand, why did you...” As she gazed at the dark expression on Yue Shan’s face, Xuan Su covered her mouth as she laughed and said.

The corners of Yue Shan’s eyes twitched for a moment, he stared at Lin Dong, who was in mid-air, as he spoke in a bitter voice: “Brat, weren’t you a little too merciless?”

Lin Dong’s figure gently descended from the sky, after hearing Yue Shan’s words, he could not help but chuckle: “Sect leader Yue Shan, righteous people need not beat about the bush, you should know that if I did not defeat Gui Yan today, perhaps my fate would not be as simple as losing a mere arm right?”

This battle was originally not a friendly bout, there was no need for mercy and compassion. However, to indulge one’s enemy was to ask for trouble. As newcomers, if the Lin Family did not display some truly ruthless methods to intimidate these restless people, they would definitely encounter an endless stream of troubles in the future. Thus, merciless methods were a must.

Yue Shan’s expression was dark, he naturally knew of this principle, but because Lin Dong had secretly chopped off one of Gui Yan’s arms while fighting with the former, it had undoubtedly hurt Yue Shan’s reputation.

“If you don’t give me an explanation for today’s matter, even if the Thousand Gold Association steps in, I, Yue Shan, guarantee

that I will first wipe out your Lin Family!”

Yue Shan’s tone was heavy with malice, today’s matter had damaged his prestige, if he did not do anything to fix it, perhaps, he would become a laughing stock in future. He would not be able to tolerate such a thing.

Furthermore, he had the confidence that even if the Lin Family had the aid of the Thousand Gold Association, if they truly fought, given the strength of his Blood Wolf Gang, they could definitely completely wipe out the Lin Family like a thunderbolt!

Lin Dong eye’s wore an indifferent expression and he did not reply. He raised his palm as four swords floated before him. His actions were clear, there was nothing to talk about, but if Yue Shan wanted a fight, Lin Dong was ready.

“Good!”

Upon seeing Lin Dong’s actions, Yue Shan’s face turned increasingly white. Anyone could tell that he was already at his limit.

“Swish!”

Behind him, many of the Blood Wolf Gang troops also sensed Yue Shan’s murderous aura as they quietly raised the weapons in their hands, which reflected a cold, glaring light.

At this sight, the men from the Thousand Gold Association and the Lin Family also gripped onto the swords in their hands. The atmosphere in the plaza had turned extremely intense in a flash.

When saw that a war was about to break out, the other surrounding factions hastily backed away, afraid that they would be embroiled in the killing. That would truly be unfortunate.

“Clatter clatter!”

Just as the battle was about to start, the urgent clatter of horse hooves was suddenly heard from outside the plaza. The crowd watched as a black flood swiftly galloped over before finally coming to a halt just outside the plaza. Under the rays of the sun, the light reflected off the black helmets and armor seemed a little cold.

“The city governor’s black-armored guard?”

“Why are they here? Didn’t the city governor overlook this place?”

As they gazed at the superior equipment, one look was enough to tell them that these were trained soldiers. The crowd in the plaza was alarmed as whispers sounded out.

The sudden arrival of these black-armored guards also caused Lin Dong, Xia Wanjin and the rest to be stunned. The hostile atmosphere in the plaza also dissipated as a result.

“Yue Shan, in any case, you are considered one of the old-timers in Yan City, why hold a grudge against this youngster?” While the crowd was astonished, an elderly figure sat atop a black horse as he walked out from the black-armored guards and said with a smile on his face.

“Grandmaster Yan?” Upon seeing that familiar figure, Lin Dong could not help but smile.

“Grandmaster Yan Xuan, this is a grudge between my Blood Wolf Gang and the Lin Family, I hope that you do not interfere.” Yue Shan replied in a low voice.

“Lin Dong has helped my Yan City Symbol Master Guild protect and keep the Symbol Master Tower. This can be said to be a huge debt, this old man is not an ungrateful person, if the Lin Family is in trouble, my Yan City Symbol Master Guild will definitely not sit still.” Grandmaster Yan said in an indifferent manner.

When grandmaster Yan’s words were spoken, it undoubtedly drew an uproar in the plaza. Some knowledgeable people knew how powerful the Symbol Master Guild was, their strength did not lose out to the top three factions in Yan City. However, they usually remained neutral and would very rarely appear to aid another.

Yue Shan’s expression likewise turned extremely ugly after hearing grandmaster Yan’s words. Never did he expect that the always neutral Symbol Master Guild would actually so bluntly aid

Lin Dong!

If this was so, wouldn't it mean that, behind this tiny Lin Family, now stood two factions that were not the slightest bit weaker than the Blood Wolf Gang?

Once he thought about the Thousand Gold Association's and the Symbol Master Guild's combined strength, Yue Shan's heart involuntarily trembled. If he started a battle against these forces, the end result for the Blood Wolf Gang would not be good...

"I think we should forget about today's matter, let the Ghost Blade Sect return the Yang Yuan Stones they had stolen to the Lin Family. A little friendliness does wonders for everyone, don't you agree, sect leader Yue Shan?" Grandmaster Yan chuckled as he said.

Yue Shan's face twitched as his gaze turned gloomy, but he did not reply. He was clearly extremely discontented with this outcome.

"Sect leader Yue Shan, everyone knows who started this matter. Let the Ghost Blade Sect hand over all the stolen Yang Yuan Stones to conclude this. If this continues, it will not be a good thing for the Blood Wolf Gang."

While Yue Shan was silent, a clear voice suddenly sounded out from beside grandmaster Yan. A figure wearing black armor trotted forward on a horse. This figure was rather slim and even the black armor was worn especially gracefully. One could tell in a

single look that there was definitely a slender and soul-stirring figure under that black armor.

“I hope that sect leader Yue Shan can stop finding trouble with the Lin Family in future on account of the city governor.”

“City governor?”

Upon hearing these words, Yue Shan’s expression finally changed. The numerous surrounding factions also cast stupefied gazes towards the graceful figure.

Though there were three top factions in Yan City, everyone knew that the faction truly in control was the city governor. They were the rulers and government of the city. Although they usually maintained order in the city, no one would doubt the city governor’s strength. Like the Symbol Master Guild, they would seldom interfere in struggles between the various factions. Situations like today, very rarely occurred.

These two words caused the plaza to turn a little quieter, shock surfaced in many of the shrewder people’s hearts. There were now three top factions standing behind a single Lin Family, the city governor, the Thousand Gold Association and the Symbol Master Guild. What in the world was this?

If these three factions joined hands, even the Blood Wolf Gang would be completely destroyed in mere days!

“Such a frightening guy...”

Some gazes which oozed with fear looked towards Lin Dong. Within the Lin Family, who else besides him could have lined up such a terrifying team?

However, what they did not know was that while they were startled, Lin Dong was also a little lost as he looked towards the graceful figure in black armor. The Symbol Master Guild arriving to aid the Lin Family was not out of his expectations, but as for the city governor, he had not interacted with them before...

While Lin Dong was at a loss, the slim figure in black armor also reached out a lily-white hand and gently removed her face armor, revealing a face that was pretty, yet as cold as ice and frost.

Chapter 152: Awe

“Zi Yue?”

When he saw this familiar, ice-cold yet pretty face, Lin Dong was stunned. From Zi Yue’s position, it was clear that she was the one in charge of this group of ‘black-armored guards’.

“Hehe, Zi Yue is the Yan City governor’s daughter.” While Lin Dong was puzzled, grandmaster Yan smiled as he approached and explained.

Upon hearing this, Lin Dong suddenly understood. No wonder he had felt that those people at the Symbol Master Guild were extremely respectful towards Zi Yue. It turns out that it was because she also possessed this important position.

“Over this period of time, all of my attention had been on the Symbol Master Tower and I did not know much about what was happening outside. Initially, I had even promised to settle the trouble between your Lin Family and the Blood Wolf Gang.” Grandmaster Yan’s voice was a little apologetic. After he found out about the situation, he had immediately rushed over. As for Zi Yue bringing the black-armored guard, that was her own idea. After all, the Blood Wolf Gang was no ordinary faction, without some substantial show of force, given Yue Shan’s character, perhaps he would not be willing to let the matter go.

In response to grandmaster Yan’s apology, Lin Dong smiled as he shook his head, showing that he did not really mind. The fact that

they were able to rush here to help at this time was already more than enough.

“In a short few months...this brat has actually roped in the Thousand Gold Association, the Symbol Master Guild and the city governor...”

As he stared at the three tremendous forces which stood behind Lin Dong, even for someone who was as strong as Yue Shan, a sense of helplessness surfaced in his heart. He had always thought that the Lin Family would be unable to withstand a single blow, yet, the sight before him caused him to understand that in the future, the Lin Family would likely become one of the great factions in Yan City that cannot be provoked.

With the backing of three great factions, combined with Lin Dong's astonishing talent, one could imagine the future potential of the Lin Family.

Although Yue Shan strongly resisted the coming of that day in his heart, at this moment, he also understood that this Lin Dong before him, was no longer the same passer-by that Yue Shan believed he could easily and conveniently dispose of.

Yue Shan deeply breathed in as the dark expression on his face swiftly disappeared. Next, a smile once again appeared as he clasped his hands towards Zi Yue and chuckled: “Since even Miss Zi Yue has personally made an appearance, if Yue Shan still does not give in, it would not be very tactful.”

It would not benefit the Blood Wolf Gang if he continued to force this matter. After all, though the Blood Wolf Gang was powerful, they were not stronger than the combined forces of the city governor, the Thousand Gold Association and the Symbol Master Guild. Since he was no longer able to force this matter, he could only back off. After spending so many years in Yan City, Yue Shan very clearly understood the principal, ‘where there is life, there is hope’.

The most difficult things to deal with were not vicious wolves but the hidden poisonous snakes.

“Since the Lin Family has Lin Dong, they truly cannot be touched...”

Upon seeing that even Yue Shan was forced to accept this situation, the other factions in the plaza looked to each other as they secretly sighed in their hearts. They very clearly understood that it would be best to forge good relations with the Lin Family in future.

“Hehe, little brother Lin Dong is truly a heroic youngster. So young and yet you’ve already reached this step. Perhaps it will not be long before you take over the spot of the strongest in Yan City. At that time, no one would be able to touch the Lin Family.” Yue Shan walked forward, all smiles as he said. He appeared particularly kind, as if the merciless and ruthless actions from before had never existed.

Lin Dong chuckled, he could hear the provocation in that guy’s words. Immediately, he softly replied: “Sect leader Yue Shan is

such a flexible person, I just know that he will accomplish big things. As for today's matter, I do hope that you will not bear a grudge against us."

Lin Dong's words directly put the three great factions into the same camp and it went without saying that also pitted them against Yue Shan.

The smile on Yue Shan's face turned a little stiff, but soon after, he quickly recovered. He did not expect that Lin Dong would already have such a way with words at this young age.

"No no, the fault this time lies with the Ghost Blade Sect. Worry not, little brother Lin Dong, the first thing I will do after I return is make them return all the Yang Yuan Stones they had stolen."

Yue Shan chuckled before clasping his hands towards Zi Yue and the rest: "Since today's matter has been settled, I will not linger any further. Miss Zi Yue, if you have the time, please send my regards to the city governor."

Zi Yue nodded her snow-white chin, in response, Yue Shan no longer lingered as he turned to leave. While he turned, the smile on his face faded as an a cold light flashed deep in his eyes. Today, nearly all his face was gone...

"Go!"

As he stepped past Gui Yan, his gazed at the latter's extremely

sorry figure and could not help but curse: “Useless thing.”

If Gui Yan was able to kill Lin Dong in their exchange previously, this matter would not have developed to this stage. The reason why the city governor, the Thousand Gold Association and the Symbol Master Guild had aided the Lin Family was all related to Lin Dong. As long as Lin Dong died, these relationships would no longer exist, and they would not have risked war with the Blood Wolf Gang to help out.

Of course, though he cursed Gui Yan, Yue Shan still waved his hand and indicated for the Ghost Blade Sect’s men to carry Gui Yan away. Without further ado, Yue Shan led the Blood Wolf Gang as they a little raggedly escaped the plaza.

As they gazed at the Blood Wolf Gang which seemed to retreat like the tide, the surrounding factions also no longer dared to stay. They hastily left, afraid that Lin Dong would remember them and find trouble for them.

Thus, in a few short minutes, the originally noisy and crowded plaza became much emptier.

“This time, it’s all thanks to the three of you.”

Upon seeing the crowd withdraw, Lin Dong sighed in relief. He turned and clasped his hands towards Zi Yue, grandmaster Yan and Xia Wanjin as he sincerely said.

“Hehe, I didn’t expect that you had already moved so many people.” Xia Wanjin chuckled. Truth be told, he was rather in awe of the fact that the Symbol Master Guild and the city governor had come to their aid. Although grandmaster Yan was usually quite close to their Thousand Gold Association, if the Thousand Gold Association truly went to war with the Blood Wolf Gang, the Symbol Master Guild would most likely maintain their neutrality. As for the city governor, it would perhaps be even more so.

Yet, today, for a single Lin Family, these two neutral faction in Yan City had appeared to help at the same time. This kind of thing rarely occurred over the past few years.

“This Lin Dong is no ordinary person, Xuan Su’s judgement is indeed sharp...” While feeling awed, Xia Wanjin was also glad and thankful that their Thousand Gold Association had some ties with Lin Dong.

Grandmaster Yan laughed as he said: “My Yan City Symbol Master Association owes Lin Dong a huge debt. Even if I did not appear this time, the other Symbol Masters would have come.”

“Father said you’re worth helping.” Zi Yue took one look at Lin Dong as she said in an indifferent manner.

Her words caused Lin Dong to be stunned. He unable to figure it out, he seemed to have yet to met that mysterious city governor right?

“Hehe, city governor Ning has heard of your performance in the

Symbol Master Tower and your capabilities. In several years, perhaps even becoming a Soul Symbol Master would not be a problem. A Soul Symbol Master is worthy for him to curry favor with in advance.” Grandmaster Yan smiled as he said.

“Soul Symbol Master...”

Upon hearing these three words, Xia Wanjin’s expression turned a little blank for a moment. Soon after, looked towards Lin Dong in shock. A Soul Symbol Master was comparable to a three Creation stage practitioner...even in the entire Great Yan Empire, that kind of strength was considered first class. If Lin Dong was truly able to reach that stage, it would really be worth it for the city governor to personally step forward.

“If Yue Shan knows about this, he would likely regret incurring a grudge with the Lin Family...”

“Grandmaster Yan thinks too highly of this young one, who can know what will happen in the future.”

Lin Dong chuckled and did not speak too much on this matter. After chatting for a while, Zi Yue was the first to leave, bringing the ‘black-armored guard’ with her, while grandmaster Yan and the Thousand Gold Association also retired one after another.

“Let’s go, we should also return.”

Upon seeing that everyone had left, Lin Dong also turned his

head and smiled towards Lin Zhentian and the rest.

As he watched Lin Dong, Lin Zhentian could not help but let out a bitter laugh. Originally, their Lin Family seemed to have no choice but to give in, yet, the former had reversed the situation and instead caused the Blood Wolf Gang to beat a hasty retreat, and furthermore, not dare be even the least bit discontent about it.

“It truly fortunate that my Lin Family has such a grandson.”

Lin Zhentian deeply sighed, on that wrinkled and aged face, uncontrollable pride and gratification could be seen.

...

This originally extremely intense situation had ended in such a mild way. Not only did the overbearing Blood Wolf Gang and Ghost Blade Sect not achieve their goals, they had instead lost face.

When news of this matter spread, it caused waves in Yan City like expected. Only now did the onlookers understand that this newcomer in Yan City actually possessed such terrifying capabilities. Of course, they also clearly understood that the one behind all this, was only a youngster that was not even twenty years old...

Regardless, after such a matter had occurred, there would no longer be anyone in Yan City who would dare to find trouble for the Lin Family. After all, even the Blood Wolf Gang had failed, how

could others dare to try?

Using the Blood Wolf Gang and the Ghost Blade Sect as stepping stones, Lin Dong had thoroughly shown his methods. Henceforth, the Lin Family's position in Yan City would become extremely stable and none would dare to challenge them again.

Chapter 153: Terminus Devil Body

In the Lin Family backyard, within a secluded small courtyard, a figure sat as still as a statue. Around him, the air rippled as portions of Yuan Power bubbled out. Under the suction force emitted by his body, the Yuan Power was completely absorbed.

On the figure's palms was an alternating black and white pearl, which was also slowly spinning. Streams of exceptionally pure and potent energy gushed out from within as it endlessly poured into the Dantian within the body.

This quiet cultivation lasted for about two hours, before the figure's tightly shut eyes slowly opened.

“Yuan Power cultivation is indeed more difficult compared to Mental energy.”

Lin Dong mumbled to himself. Currently, his Mental energy had already reached the third seal Symbol Master level, yet his Yuan Power was still stuck at the initial Yuan Dan stage. Although this was due to the events in the Symbol Master Tower, when he compared the two, the progress of his Yuan Power was indeed a little slow.

“At this speed, I will perhaps need a few months to reach the advanced Yuan Dan stage.”

Lin Dong's eyebrows slightly furrowed, with regards to this pace, he was rather unsatisfied. However, if these words were heard by

Lin Zhentian, he would likely vomit a mouthful of his old blood. Normally, one would spend several years to advance from the initial Yuan Dan stage to the advanced Yuan Dan stage. Lin Dong had only stopped at this stage only for a few months, if even this was slow, what would everyone else do?

“Brother Lin Dong!”

While Lin Dong was trying to figure out how to increase the pace of his Yuan Power cultivation, a girl in green suddenly dashed into the small courtyard. A little disappointment could be seen on her delicate face.

“Still unable to absorb Yang energy?” Upon seeing Qing Tan’s appearance, Lin Dong’s eyebrows once again tightly knitted together as he said.

“Yea.”

Qing Tan nodded her head. Ever since she had advanced to the Heavenly Yuan stage, the swift growth of her strength had come to a halt. In the end, what caused her to be disappointed was that no matter how she tried to absorb Yang energy, she was unable to achieve even the slightest success. When the Yang energy entered her body, it would be devoured by the terrifying Yin energy within her.

Faced with this situation, even Lin Dong was rendered useless. Qing Tan’s constitution was somewhat special, her innate Yin energy was too potent. Logically speaking, once one is able to reach

the step of harmonizing Yin and Yang, one would be able to condense a Yuan Dan. Yet, Qing Tan's circumstances meant that she would likely be unable to form a Yuan Dan for her whole life...

"Let me think of an idea, no need to worry." Lin Dong indulged Qing Tan as he stroke her small head.

"Okay. Oh, by the way, father has broken through to the initial Yuan Dan stage a few days ago. Grandpa and the rest were practically leaping with joy." To Qing Tan, Lin Dong's words were akin to the final decision. Immediately, the disappointment on the little girl's face dissipated, she believed that as long as Lin Dong said it, there was nothing that he would be incapable of solving.

"Oh, father has finally reached the initial Yuan Dan stage?" Upon hearing this, Lin Dong was pleasantly surprised, though it was not out of his expectations. After all, that Yin Yang Pearl was enough to achieve this.

Qing Tan smiled as she nodded her head, she playfully accompanied Lin Dong for a while before skipping away as she left. As he gazed at the girl's lively figure, the smile on Lin Dong's face grew even wider.

Over this period of time, the Lin Family was finally at peace. In Yan City, even the Blood Wolf Gang no longer dared to do anything to the Lin Family. After Lin Dong had showed his strength and revealed the the three great factions support, even Yue Shan was now a little fearful. If he was not assured of success, that crafty guy would not dare to take any rash actions against the Lin Family.

Over this peaceful period, the Lin Family's strength had quietly risen. Lin Xia, Lin Hong and the rest of the younger generation members had successively advanced to the Heavenly Yuan stage. The Lin Family's current wealth was enough to allow their cultivation speed to increase several fold.

Everything was moving in a favorable direction.

“Sigh...I had better think of a way to solve Qing Tan's problem...”

Lin Dong scratched his head, throwing out all the useless thoughts in his mind. Soon after, his expression turned concentrated, ever since he had found out about Qing Tan's problems, he had looked through several books about Yin related constitutions, but, he did not manage to find anything helpful.

“This girl's constitution is really quite special...”

While Lin Dong muttered to himself, a glowing shadow condensed on his shoulder as the small marten appeared. It gazed in the direction Qing Tan had disappeared in, as if it was thinking of something.

“Yea, Qing Tan seems to have some kind of Yin constitution.” Lin Dong chuckled as he said.

“Tch, unknowledgeable brat, this girl does not possess some

rubbish Yin constitution. If this grandfather marten is not wrong, it should be the Terminus Devil Body .” The small marten’s lips slanted downwards in disdain as it said.

“Terminus Devil Body?” Lin Dong was stunned, but he knew that this small marten was indeed a lot more knowledgeable than him. Quickly, he hurriedly asked: “Tell me more.”

“Some special things eventually appear in the world. This Terminus Devil Body is regarded as a type of extremely tyrannical Yin body. Other kinds of Yin natured bodies are perhaps able to absorb Yang energy and proceed to fuse the energies, but, this Terminus Devil Body is different, no Yang energy is able to exist in this body, extremely tyrannical.” The small marten explained.

“How can this be resolved?” Lin Dong very carefully inquired.

“Continue absorbing various kinds of Yin energy, the more potent it is, the better.” The small marten grinned and said: “You wanted her to continue absorbing Yang energy in hopes of neutralizing the Yin energy in her body. This was extremely foolish. It is impossible to neutralize the Yin energy in her body, and she is cannot condense a Yuan Dan like ordinary people.”

“If that is so, won’t Qing Tan’s cultivation be stuck at this stage?” Lin Dong’s expression changed as he said in a low voice.

“The Terminus Devil Body is not so useless, although she is unable to condense a Yuan Dan, she can instead condense a Yin Dan.”

“The so-called Yuan Dan is formed through the fusion of Yin and Yang energy, while the Yin Dan is purely made up of Yin energy. In addition, the Yin energy in this girl’s body is known as , Terminus Devil Qi and this kind of Qi can be condensed into a Dan. Heh heh, it’s might is truly somewhat frightening.” The small sable clicked it’s tongue as it let out a weird laugh.

“Truth be told, a pure Yin Dan or Yang Dan would be a little stronger than the ordinary Yuan Dan. But, these are unique to people with certain special constitutions, an ordinary person would be unable to condense them.”

Astonishment revealed itself in Lin Dong’s eyes, evidently, this was the first time he had heard that, besides the Yuan Dan, there were actually so many other Dan cultivation methods.

“Instruct that girl not to absorb Yang energy in the future and think of ways to give her some Yin energy. It is said that this kind of Yin Dan formation still requires a special method. However, I am not too clear about this matter. Some of the bigger sects would perhaps possess them, and they are also most fond of these kinds of pure Yin or pure Yang seedlings...” The little marten lazily explained.

“Many thanks.” Upon hearing this, Lin Dong also lightly nodded his head as he thanked the marten.

The small marten waved its claws as its figure faded into nothingness. Over this period of time, it had appeared more and

more frequently and it seemed to be more open with Lin Dong.

“Pure Yin energy...this will not be easy to find.” Lin Dong softly sighed as he engraved this information in his heart, before walking out of the small courtyard and turning towards the courtyard Lin Xiao occupied.

“Father.”

As he had anticipated, Lin Dong found Lin Xiao seated in a stone pavilion within that courtyard. Immediately, he smiled as he walked over and called out.

“It’s Dong-er.”

Upon seeing Lin Dong, a smile surfaced on Lin Xiao’s face. Happiness filled his eyes as he gazed at the youngster before him. Ever since he had been beaten and crippled, his only hope was to nurture a talent for the Lin Family. ‘The heavens would not abandon a resolute person’, in the end, he had succeeded, furthermore, this person was not merely a talent, but, a true genius!

The Lin Family had practically relied solely on Lin Dong as they successfully moved from Qingyang Town to Yan City!

“Father, have you recovered from your injuries?” Lin Dong poured a cup of tea for Lin Xiao as he smiled.

“Yes, I’ve completely recovered. Now, I’ve also finally advanced to the initial Yuan Dan stage.” Lin Xiao chuckled as he nodded his head. He gazed at the youngster before him as he turned silent for a moment before suddenly speaking: “There are only about two years until the Lin Clan gathering...”

Lin Dong was slightly taken aback as his expression turned a little icy. He had recalled the person who had caused Lin Xiao to become extremely despondent for several years, and in response, also mother to wash her face with tears because of Lin Xiao’s despondency. This was also the first person Lin Dong had hated in his life.

Lin Langtian.

The one known as the most remarkable and outstanding genius of the Lin Clan over the last hundred years.

“Dong-er, returning to the inner circle of the Lin Clan is your grandfather’s only wish.” Upon seeing Lin Dong’s expression, Lin Xiao softly sighed. He was under the impression that Lin Dong was unwilling.

“Father, I understand.”

Lin Dong chuckled, although he did not know much about the Lin Clan, and did not care much for them, this was after all what the old man had worked all his life for. As his grandson, it was Lin Dong’s duty to fulfill it.

In addition, within the depths of the youngster's heart, he also clearly remembered the ridicule and mockery Lin Xiao and the rest had faced after suffering a crushing defeat at that clan gathering. Lin Dong hoped that one day, he would be able to stand on the same stage and use force to tell those bastards, that the son of that loser could still fearlessly stand here, no matter who his opponent may be...

“I will make sure grandpa returns to the inner circle of the clan.”

The youngster pursed his lips, determination and confidence could be heard in his voice as he smiled.

“Furthermore... I will defeat that person.”

These last words were not spoken from his mouth, but instead, in his heart. Lin Dong lifted his head and gazed at his father's smiling expression before him. He knew that when that person had humiliatingly defeated and heavily injured his father, the look on this face was extremely painful.

“Lin Langtian, for my father, I will make you pay.”

The youngster lifted his head and deeply inhaled a breath of air. Perhaps, he would need to invest a lot to fulfill this desire, but, this youngster would not forget this grudge...

Chapter 154: Blood Vermillion Devil Fruit

After experiencing that hostile situation which had almost broken out into an all out war, the entire Yan City seemed much quieter than before. Lin Dong had likewise become much more relaxed. Now, he finally no longer needed to busy himself with being a 'firefighter'.

Of course, though his days more leisurely, most of Lin Dong's time was spent on cultivation. Due to the fact that he had a breakthrough in Mental Energy to the third seal Symbol Master stage not long ago, it would be very difficult to greatly increase it again for a short period of time. Thus, Lin Dong spent most of his time on Yuan Power cultivation.

While he ceaselessly trained, his Yuan Power progress was rather significant. Although he had yet to break through to the advanced Yuan Dan stage, Lin Dong could sense that he was already gradually reaching the peak of the initial Yuan Dan stage.

To be capable of achieving this in two months was already rather good. Of course, during these two months, the last Yin Yang Pearl in Lin Dong's hands had been completely consumed by him. This item could truly be considered an outstanding Yuan Power cultivation aid, unfortunately, it was too rare. Lin Dong had once asked Xuan Su to help him purchase this kind of Yin Yang Pearl, however, it turned out an unsuccessful venture. If normal people obtained this kind of thing, who would so easily offer it up for sale.

With regards to the Yin Yang Pearl being completely used up, Lin Dong could do nothing about it. Fortunately, he still had the elixir

pills which were refined from grade five elixirs. Though they were not as effective as the Yin Yang Pearl, they were still rather decent.

Of course, the effect of an elixir pill refined from a grade six elixir would be much better, however, grade six elixirs were rarely seen even in the Thousand Gold Association. This kind of elixir was highly sought after even by some perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners and ordinary people also knew their worth. Thus, even if one possessed a grade six elixir, one would seldom put it out for sale. Therefore, over these two months, Lin Dong was unable to obtain even a single grade six elixir, and this also caused him to feel a little depressed.

However, although he was unable to obtain a grade six elixir like he wanted, it could be said that though Lin Dong's cultivation speed was not like a rocket over these two months, it was still not bad. At this speed, successfully advancing to the advanced Yuan Dan stage was only a matter of time.

Of course, if he was able to use grade six elixir pills to sprint through that final stretch, that would naturally be the best.

...

In the secluded small courtyard, Lin Dong once again slowly withdrew from a cultivation state. A whistle sounded out from his mouth as a red shadow quickly dashed into the small courtyard.

“Little Flame, bring these elixir pills to Qing Tan, you are not allowed to secretly eat them!” As he gazed at the rather

intimidating Little Flame in front of him, Lin Dong slightly smiled. The current Little Flame's strength had already far surpassed the limits of an ordinary Fire Python Tiger. Under its scarlet fur, scales were slowly growing, an extremely bizarre sight.

Lin Dong predicted that with Little Flame's current battle power, perhaps even an advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner would be unable to easily deal with it. After all, now that it possessed that layer of armor-like scales hidden under its fur, both Little Flame's defence and offense had risen by a level.

“Growl!”

Little Flame opened its mouth wide and caught the bottle thrown by Lin Dong, before letting out a low discontented growl.

“Gluttonous thing.” Upon seeing this, Lin Dong could not help but laugh as he flicked his finger and several elixir pills fell into Little Flame's mouth, a little irritated as he said: “Hurry up and go!”

After swallowing all the elixir pills into its body, Little Flame intimately rubbed its huge head against Lin Dong, before turning as it swiftly left.

“This guy is becoming more and more unlike a Fire Python Tiger...” As he gazed at Little Flame's flaming figure, Lin Dong helplessly shook his head. He had never heard of an ordinary Fire Python Tiger possessing this level of intellect.

“Some variations have already appeared in this Fire Python Tiger’s blood, it should be because it had eaten that ‘Sky Fire Wyvern’s’ demonic essence.” The small marten once again appeared on Lin Dong’s shoulder as it spoke in an indifferent manner.

“Sky Fire Wyvern?” After hearing this name, Lin Dong was a little taken aback. Soon after, he recalled the mysterious beast bones they had encountered in the within the mining lode cave and asked: “Is that guy really so powerful?”

“Somewhat passable. Demonic Beasts that can condense a demonic essence are equivalent to the humans who have reached the Creation stage. These kind of Demonic Beasts also possess bloodlines and are have extremely high battle prowess. Humans of the same level will find it very difficult to beat them.” The small marten explained.

“Creation stage...”

Lin Dong was amazed, evidently, he had not expected that the beast bones had possessed such a frightening strength when it was alive. Grandpa had said that even the clan leader of the Lin Clan was only at the Creation stage right?

“Pythons, wyverns and the other powerful dragons hold the balance of power in the Demonic Beast world. Among them, some are connected by bloodlines. Although the Fire Python Tiger is considered as one of the lowest ranked, it had fortunately assimilated the ‘Sky Fire Wyvern’s’ demonic essence. After that day, it grew especially ferocious, though, how far it would go

would depend on its luck.”

Lin Dong nodded his head, it seemed that Little Flame was now somewhat special, in the future, he would nurture it properly. Maybe, it would have a super evolution some day, like a carp transforming into a dragon.

“The last batch of Yin energy elixirs have been used up...”

Temporarily putting aside Little Flame, Lin Dong was silent for a while before he suddenly said: “Recently, Qing Tan’s Yin energy outbreaks have become more and more frequent, plus, they seem to be more violent than before. This should be due to absorbing Yin energy right?”

Over this period of time, Qing Tan’s complexion had become sickly which was caused by the outbreak of Yin energy in her body. Although Lin Dong was able to use the Stone Talisman to ease some of the pain, in the face of this constant torture, it was not a solution.

“Ah...”

Upon hearing this, the small marten seemed to become a little awkward as it coughed and said: “There is nothing that can be done about this, previously, I had forgotten to tell you that for someone with a Terminus Devil Body like her, they would only gradually gain control over the Terminus Devil Qi within their bodies after condensing a Yin Dan. However, before this, they will constantly suffer the backlash from the Terminus Devil Qi, and

maybe, they might even lose their minds, becoming human vegetables...”

“Why didn’t you say this earlier!”

After hearing this grave consequences, Lin Dong’s expression finally changed as he furiously replied.

“What should I do?” After Lin Dong furiously spoke out, he also calmed down. It was useless to say all this now, he needed to think of a solution.

“Find a items which are of Yin attribute to speed up the rate at which her body condenses a Yin Dan.” The small marten quickly said.

“Items of Yin nature...”

Lin Dong bitterly smiled, he had already spent all his effort just to find elixirs with Yin properties. This items of Yin nature were an even more mysterious and precious, once it appeared, countless people would fight over it. To obtain one would be easier said than done.

“Sigh, I’ll first go to the Thousand Gold Association. They have many connections, perhaps, they might have an idea...”

Lin Dong softly sighed, without further ado, he walked out of the small courtyard before directly exiting the Lin Family and swiftly

travelling towards the Thousand Gold Association at the center of the city.

As he walked through the extremely busy Yan City, Lin Dong's eyebrows suddenly furrowed a little. He could sense that there seemed to be quite a few foreigners, and most importantly, these foreigners were not weak.

Although felt that this was a little strange, Lin Dong did not take it to heart. After all, Yan City was one of the great cities in the Tiandu province. An influx of a huge amount of foreigners would not be considered too strange.

As he suppressed the thoughts in his heart, Lin Dong moved through a few streets before successfully reaching the Thousand Gold auction house. Currently, he was considered as a notable person in Yan City, thus, once he entered the auction house, he was immediately respectfully led to the place Xuan Su was at.

“Little brother Lin Dong, you are truly a dragon that only shows its head and never its tail, it seems like you only come and find me when you need elixirs, am I right?” Within the study, Xuan Su stretched, revealing the curves of her body. She flirtatiously rolled her eyes at Lin Dong as she spoke in a displeased voice.

Towards this beauty who was filled with grace and charm whether she smiled or frowned, Lin Dong could only let out a dry laugh: “Big sister Su, is there news about the grade six elixir?”

Xuan Su lightly snorted as an ‘as expected’ expression was

revealed on her face, before she sweetly smiled and nodded.

Upon seeing this, the originally not very hopeful Lin Dong was first stunned before joy immediately surfaced on his face.

“This grade six elixir was originally going to be the key item in the auction this time, however, since you need it, after we discussed with the seller, we have directly bought it. Of course, it is not cheap.” Xuan Su chuckled as she spoke.

While she was speaking, Xuan Su’s lily-white hands lightly pressed a bell on the table. Immediately, a servant girl walked in while carrying a jade plate. Atop of the jade plate, was a red embroidered cloth, but even so, Lin Dong was still able to sense the potent and pure energy from within.

The servant girl very carefully lifted the embroidered cloth, revealing an already opened jade box under it. A fist-sized dark red fruit, which was as round as a pearl, lay within. On the smooth and round surface of the fruit, natural veined patterns were faintly discernable, causing it to have a slightly mystical aura.

At this dark red fruit’s appearance, the entire room seemed to be filled with a delicate fragrance.

“Grade six elixir, Blood Vermillion Devil Fruit.”

As he stared at this fist-sized dark red fruit, the delight in Lin Dong’s eyes grew, clearly, he was extremely satisfied with this

item.

“Little brother Lin Dong, the price of this Blood Vermillion Devil Fruit has already reached sixty thousand Yang Yuan Stones. This is ten times the price of a common grade five elixir.” To one side, Xuan Su was all smiles as she said.

“I’ll buy it.”

A grade six elixir was very important to the current Lin Dong, thus, he did not have a heartache at its exceedingly costly price. With a wave of his hand, he placed a Qiankun bag on the jade plate, while also taking the jade box.

“Oh, by the way, big sister Su, could I trouble you to help me look out for elixirs or special items which are Yin in nature and let me know if you find one.” After keeping the Blood Vermillion Devil Fruit, Lin Dong’s expression turned serious as he said in a low voice.

“Yin nature...”

Upon hearing this, Xuan Su’s umber-black eyebrows lightly knitted together. These things were not easy to find. Even if the Thousand Gold Association had enough resources to purchase it, items like this would very seldom make an appearance. However, after she thought about it for a while, she still agreed.

In response, Lin Dong also sighed in relief. Just as he was about

to take his leave, Xuan Su suddenly smiled gently as she said: “Little brother Lin Dong, do you know about the major event that had recently occurred in Tiandu region?”

After hearing these words, Lin Dong was stunned, he suddenly recalled the abrupt increase in foreigners within Yan City, and could not help but somewhat curiously ask.

“What happened?”

Chapter 155: The Old Tomb

Upon seeing that Lin Dong was curiously inquiring, the corners of Xuan Su's mouth slightly lifted. Soon after, she mysteriously said: "Do you know of the the mountain range in the vicinity of the few major cities?"

"Sky Flame mountain range? What has happened there?" Lin Dong was a little astonished as he asked.

"Someone has found a tomb in Sky Flame mountain range."

"Tomb? Whose?" Lin Dong was startled, the discovery of a tomb was not an important news, he knew that crucial point was who the tomb belonged to.

"That tomb came from a rather ancient time period, however, it is said that it was left behind by a practitioner that had reached the Nirvana stage..." Xuan Su's beautiful eyes swept one round around the room as she said in a low voice.

"Nirvana stage..."

After hearing these two simple words, Lin Dong was first stunned for a while before he fiercely inhaled a breath of cold air. Shock colored his eyes as he gazed at Xuan Su and asked: "How is that possible?"

Nirvana stage. Even in the entire Great Yan Empire, the ones

who were able to advance to this level were extremely rare existences. All the Nirvana stage practitioners of the past were very renowned, how could a Nirvana stage practitioner's tomb suddenly appear today?

“It is indeed a little hard to imagine, however, this information should be true. My Thousand Gold Association has went through a good deal of channels and asked around. It seems like practically every practitioner in the entire Tiandu province has come because of this. Plus, there are even people from the four great clans...” Xuan Su said.

“The four great clans...” Lin Dong's eyelids twitched, as his facial expression turned serious. The tomb of a Nirvana stage practitioner was not an ordinary place. Any item left behind by that kind of practitioner would drive anyone into a craze.

“So that's why there have been quite a number of skilled practitioners arriving in Yan City recently. It's because of this.” Lin Dong slowly nodded his head in realization.

“Little brother Lin Dong, if you are interested, you could check it out too. If you are fortunate, perhaps you could inherit the legacy left by that Nirvana stage practitioner. Tch tch, at that time, it would truly be a carp leaping through the dragon's gate.” Xuan Su smiled as she said.

“A Nirvana stage practitioner's tomb. I am afraid that this fight is out of my reach.”

Lin Dong released a pained smile as he shook his head. Even though he was slightly famous in Yan City, he understood that the people fighting for the treasures in the old tomb would definitely all be elite practitioners famed throughout Tiandu province or even the Great Yan Empire. Therefore, even if he went, he would likely be unable to reap much benefits.

“Oh, thats right, little brother Lin Dong. Previously, you mentioned that you required an object of Yin nature. Perhaps, inside that old tomb, the thing you desire...” As if she suddenly recalled something, Xuan Su muttered for a moment before she spoke.

“Oh?”

“Extreme Yin Dragon Saliva.”

“Sss....”

When he heard that name, Lin Dong involuntarily took in a deep breath in his heart. This old tomb really deserved its reputation. After all, it actually contained such a rare Yin object. If Qing Tan could obtain that item, she should be able to thoroughly rid herself of the torment caused by the Yin energy. In fact, she may even succeed in forming an Yin Dan right away!

However... this old tomb had attracted too many powerful practitioners. Therefore, it would be difficult to obtain this “Extreme Yin Dragon Saliva.”

“Thank you big sister Su.”

Lin Dong sighed in his heart as he thanked Xuan Su. After discussing more about the old tomb for a while, he then bid her goodbye.

“Nirvana stage...”

After he exited the Thousand Gold Association, Lin Dong stared at the congested streets as he softly sighed. A practitioner at that stage still seemed like a distant goal for many and even himself. After all, once one reach that stage, he would effectively stand at the summit of this age.

After all, even the clan leader of the Lin Clan was merely at the Creation stage!

“It’s such a pity...” Lin Dong sighed as he shook his head. He knew that if he could obtain anything from that old tomb, it would be extremely beneficial for him...however, now that this old tomb had drawn the attention of countless elite practitioners, it would probably be an uphill struggle.

“Heh, kid. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Don’t give up so easily...” Just as Lin Dong was sighing, a voice suddenly rang out inside his mind. It was the small marten.

Lin Dong shook his head helplessly. He did not want to mix in these muddy waters.

“When a Nirvana stage practitioner dies, all the Yuan Power inside his body will not so easily dissipate. Rather, as time passes by, it will gradually gather together. The end result represents the quintessence of a Nirvana stage practitioner’s entire life and is called the Nirvana Heart.

“If an ordinary individual could obtain a Nirvana Heart, as long as he was somewhat capable, he would have the potential to reach the Creation stage. However, for a talented individual, as long as he can endure that essence, reaching even the Nirvana stage would not be impossible...

“Therefore, that item would be truly magical for you...”

Lin Dong footsteps gradually stopped as his heart was in upheaval. To think that there were actually such incredible things in this world.

“Though I cannot guarantee that there will be a Nirvana Heart inside the old tomb, it is still worth a try. Meanwhile, I can also use this opportunity to look for something to cultivate my demonic soul...”

The small marten’s final words revealed its ulterior motive, to which Lin Dong could only let out a bitter laugh, but, he did not immediately make a decision. Even though the allure of the old tomb was strong, it was still very risky...

As if it knew what Lin Dong was mulling over, after it finished

speaking, the small marten quietened down. Heaving a sigh of relief, Lin Dong resumed his journey back to the Lin Family.

...

Over the next few days, Lin Dong did not travel outside. However, he still knew that there were increasingly more elite practitioners from all over Tiandu province arriving here daily. Meanwhile, news of the old tomb in Sky Flame Mountain Range was gradually spreading across the whole Yan City...

In a secluded room, Lin Dong was seated on his bed. Right now, in his embrace, Qing Tan's tiny body was curled up like a kitten, as shockingly cold Qi endlessly poured out from her body. Even though Lin Dong was already using the Stone Talisman to suck up the cold Qi, Qing Tan's tiny face still looked exceptionally pale. It was a heart breaking scene.

“Brother Lin Dong, I... am fine.”

Qing Tan's body continuously trembled, as her delicate and tiny hands tightly gripped onto Lin Dong's sleeve. Her fingers had turned white from the huge force she exerted. However, this little lass did not want Lin Dong to worry. Therefore, she endured the pain from the cold Qi as it devoured her body, while she lifted her head and gave an extremely forced smile to Lin Dong.

Lin Dong was silent as his hands gently caressed Qing Tan's icy cold hair. Moments later, a determined glint flashed in his eyes as he muttered to himself: “Little girl, don't worry, I will find a way

to completely relieve you of this torment.”

As if she heard Lin Dong’s words, Qing Tan gently nodded her head. Then, as she slowly shut her eye, she immediately fell asleep from exhaustion.

Lin Dong carried Qing Tan to her bed before he securely wrapped her with blankets. Only then did he very carefully leave the room. Lifting his head up, he exhaled a deep breath.

“Heh heh, what’s the matter? Are you finally planning to give it a go?” On Lin Dong’s shoulder, the small marten appeared as it chuckled.

“To obtain the thing I want from within the old tomb would not be simple. Therefore, I may need your help.” Lin Dong muttered.

“No problem. However, if we encounter something that can aid me in recovering my demonic soul, you must help me fight for it too!” The small marten said without the slightest hesitation.

“Deal!”

Lin Dong laughed as he nodded his head. Ever since it swallowed that Demonic Jade Water Python’s demonic soul, the small marten’s strength was probably now enough to match up against a perfect Yuan Dan practitioner. Furthermore, with Lin Dong’s abilities, their combined powers would allow them to not fear any opponents of the Yuan Dan stage.

After he formed an alliance with the small marten, Lin Dong felt slightly relieved. Closing the room door, he walked out of the small courtyard and headed towards the Lin Family's training grounds.

The Lin Family's training grounds was mostly filled younger generation members, who were diligently training. When they saw Lin Dong walk over, respect and admiration immediately filled everyone's eyes. Right now, Lin Dong's status in the family was exceedingly high. Furthermore, Lin Dong's was also personally teaching martial arts to other younger generation members. Therefore, this caused even more of them to respect him.

Lin Dong smiled at the crowd before he sat down in the training ground. Soon after, a stream of younger generation members successively arrived and asked him for pointers. Lin Dong was fairly patient as he advised them. Due to the Stone Talisman, his understanding of martial arts was unparalleled in the Lin Family. That was also the reason why Lin Zhentian and the rest had assigned him to be the martial arts instructor.

As he coached them, two hours passed by rapidly. Lin Dong took a look at the sky, and just as he planned to get up, an amused laughter suddenly sounded out from nearby.

“Is this what has become of the Lin Family? They actually hired such an immature kid to be their martial arts instructor. It's no wonder that even after so many years, they are still unable to return to the clan...”

This sudden laughter heated up the atmosphere in the training ground. Then, pairs of angry eyes turned to look in the direction of the laughter.

Lin Dong's eyebrows likewise gently furrowed when he heard that voice. As he turned to look at the outskirts of the training grounds, his eyes slightly narrowed.

Right now, at the edge of the training grounds, four well dressed youngsters had unknowingly arrived. Smiles were plastered on their faces as they stared somewhat mockingly at the Lin Family younger generation members. They seemed exceptionally frivolous as they commented among themselves.

Lin Dong's eyes scanned across the four of them and suddenly paused at their chests. Sewed on their chests were two embroidered patterns.

This pattern was not foreign to Lin Dong. He had seen it before on a shirt that Lin Zhentian treasured. Therefore, he clearly knew what this pattern represented...

One of the four great clans of the Great Yan Dynasty, the Lin Clan!

Chapter 156: Main Clan Members

“The Lin Clan...”

As he stared at that unique embroidered pattern, Lin Dong's eyes slightly narrowed. This was the first time he had truly seen someone from the Lin Clan. Until now, he had only heard of this colossus which possessed an outstanding reputation in the Great Yan Empire from Lin Zhentian, Lin Xiao and the rest. Yet, Lin Dong had never truly met them before.

“Why have these guys come to my Lin Family? Could it be that they are aiming for the old tomb?” Lin Dong's heart slightly stirred, perhaps, this could be the only reason to explain why these main clan members who had always thought themselves a cut above the other branch families would have taken the initiative to come here.

“This is my Lin Family's land, who allowed you to enter?!”

While Lin Dong was caught up in his thoughts, one of the younger generation Lin Family members had already angrily yelled the four, extremely discontented with their frivolous mannerism.

“Hehe, the four of us will go wherever we please in the Lin Family's territory. Not considering all of you kids, even if Lin Zhentian was here, he would not dare to speak to us in such a way!” One of the four indifferently laughed as he said.

“Haha, normally, even if you invited us here, I'm afraid we

would just ignore you.”

Another one also laughed as he said: “No matter what, you people are also considered as a branch of my Lin Clan. If you are really unable to afford a martial arts instructor, when I return this time, I will send someone over to properly teach you guys, so as to avoid shaming the Lin name in future.”

From their words, it was clear that the fact that Lin Dong would dare to act as a martial arts instructor at his age was extremely shameful and laughable to them. Their words undoubtedly infuriated the younger generation members of the Lin Family. After experiencing all the events that had occurred in the past year, Lin Dong’s place in their hearts had grown rather high. Thus, they were naturally unable to endure the mockery of these guys.

“No matter who you people are, since you’ve come to my Lin Family, you should respect some rules. If you look down on cousin Lin Dong teaching martial arts, I, Lin Hong, will ask for some guidance today!” Among the crowd, a person suddenly walked out as he coldly snorted.

“Oh, how courageous, since we have nothing better to do, today, we will let all of you understand why there is a main clan and a branch clan!” The one clothed in blue at the center of the group mockingly looked towards Lin Hong before waving his hand: “Lin Qiang.”

“Haha, brother Lin Feng, don’t worry.”

Upon hearing the blue clothed youngsters word's, a conspicuously tall and sturdy youngster beside him also grinned as he took two steps forward to directly stand before Lin Hong. The former clasped his fists together as a vigorous Yuan Power undulation quietly surged out.

“Kid, in ten rounds, I will make you kneel.” Lin Qiang took a look at Lin Hong as he curled his lip and declared.”

“Bang!”

Lin Hong was expressionless and did not reply, while the Yuan Power in his body likewise exploded out. Quickly, his figure bent as he straightaway took one step forward, a punch slamming towards Lin Qiang.

“Heavenly Yuan middle stage? Not bad.”

When he sensed the Yuan Power undulations which had burst out from Lin Hong's body, Lin Qiang was a little surprised. Evidently, he had not expected that in this tiny branch family, there would actually be a younger generation who had reached the Heavenly Yuan middle stage at such an age.

“However, to defeat me, it's still not enough!”

Surprise was in the end just surprise. Lin Qiang did not hesitate in the slightest as his huge hand directly reached out and caught Lin Hong's fist. The corners of his mouth formed a disdainful grin

as strong Yuan Power undulations transformed into energy which jolted back Lin Hong's fist and caused him to retreat several steps.

“Haha!”

Having obtained dominance in one move, Lin Qiang let out a hearty laughter as he once again advanced forward. Vigorous Yuan Power undulated on his fists as they flew, causing faint sounds of tearing through the air to sound out. One could tell that the fist technique this guy utilised was not a low level martial art.

As they gazed at Lin Hong, who was quickly at a disadvantage, the expressions of the younger generation Lin Family members on the training grounds slightly changed. Evidently, they did not expect that any random one of the four would be able to push Lin Hong this far.

“Bang bang bang!”

Two figures clashed fiercely together as strong Yuan Power undulations spread out from their collisions, causing the dirt on the ground to fly up in the air.

“Kid, you've lost!”

In the middle of this intense exchange, Lin Qiang suddenly chuckled. His arm suddenly became extremely slippery, and with a 'chi' sound, it bizarrely penetrated Lin Hong's defense and solidly engraved itself on his chest.

“Bang!”

A strong force transmitted from his chest as Lin Hong's expression turned pale. Yet, a fierce glint flitted across his eyes as his left hand returned to forcibly locked Lin Qiang's arm in place while his right fist abruptly punched out, and unceremoniously slammed onto the other party's chest.

When the forces dispersed, the two figures unsteadily took a few steps back, however, everyone could tell that Lin Hong had come off worse from that exchange.

“Lin Qiang, you can't even deal with one of the kids from the branch family?”

When they saw that Lin Qiang had actually been pushed back by a punch, the other two companions could not help but laugh.

“Disgraceful!”

Upon hearing their mocking voices, Lin Qiang's expression darkened a little. He stared at Lin Hong and decided not to stop as the sole of his foot pushed off the ground. Like a wolf pouncing at its prey, he once again dashed forward.

When he saw that Lin Qiang was actually attacking again, Lin Hong's expression turned a little gloomy. Just as he was about to step forward, a palm landed on his shoulder.

“Don’t fight any more.”

Lin Hong turned his head to gaze at Lin Dong, who was standing behind. After hesitating for a moment, he did not speak to oppose the latter as he nodded his head and withdrew two steps back.

“Planning to leave? It won’t be so easy.” Upon seeing that Lin Hong had given up, Lin Qiang was furious instead of delighted. He had suffered a little previously and now wanted to regain his pride. How could he so easily let Lin Hong withdraw?

Thus, his speed did not slow, instead, the Yuan Power undulation from his body grew increasingly stronger as a formidable fist charged towards Lin Dong.

“Kid, get lost!”

As they heard Lin Qiang’s shout, some of the Lin Family younger generation members were initially stunned. Soon after, joyous expressions at his misfortune was revealed on their faces.

Lin Dong indifferently gazed at Lin Qiang, who did not intend to back down. His sleeve lightly waved as a vigorous Mental Energy exploded out.

“Bang!”

In mid-air, Lin Qiang's pouncing figure suddenly froze, in the next moment, as if he had encountered the blow of an invisible huge sledgehammer, he was directly blown backwards before finally heavily landing on the ground. Horror almost instantly filled his face.

“Mental Energy!”

Lin Feng and the other two were also stunned by this scene. Lin Feng's eyes flashed as his expression turned slightly serious.

“Brother Lin Dong, nice!”

Upon seeing that Lin Dong had beaten that arrogant Lin Qiang with a mere wave of his sleeve, the Lin Family younger generation members immediately burst out in cheers.

“No matter where you are from, this place belongs to the Lin Family, as the host, we naturally know how to treat our guests, but, as guests, please also respect the rules. If you are too overbearing, don't blame my Lin Family from falling out with you!”

“Heh, such big words!”

When they heard Lin Dong's tone, the quartet's expressions turned somewhat ugly. As members of the main clan, they had always thought themselves superior as they looked down upon the branch clans. Now that they had received such treatment, how

could they still keep their expressions from turning ugly?

“Humph, I recall that in the previous clan gathering, there was a trash who was crippled in the first match, and this trash came from your branch family!” One of the youths, who had a slightly shrewd expression, harshly sneered.

Just as this person’s words were spoken, he suddenly felt that something was wrong. His gaze turned towards Lin Dong, only to find that the latter’s expression had turned exceptionally icy.

“Careful!”

While Lin Dong’s expression turned icy, Lin Feng’s expression also suddenly changed. He had sensed that the former had already transformed into a blurred figure and was dashing forward at an extremely violent speed.

“Pa!”

However, just as he shouted out, that figure had already appeared before shrewd faced youth. A hand raised as a clear slapping sound suddenly rang out in the training grounds.

“Pu chi!”

Lin Dong’s slap was not the slightest bit merciful, immediately, the youth spit out a mouthful of blood, and mixed in the blood were two shattered teeth. His body was like a spinning top as it

spun a few rounds in mid-air before heavily landing on the ground.

“Kid, you dare to attack?!”

As they stared at the youth who had directly fainted after a single slap from Lin Dong, Lin Feng’s expression instantly darkened as he sternly said: “Catch that fellow, to think that a branch family member dares to be so bold?”

Upon hearing Lin Feng’s shout, vicious glints surfaced in the other two’s eyes. However, before they could make a move, they felt a cold light arrive at their bodies, when they regained their wits, two sharp Mysterious Ice Swords had unknowingly placed themselves at their throats.

Lin Dong ignored the two as he turned his head and looked at Lin Feng. The former stepped forward as a powerful and dreadful Mental Energy pressure pushed down on Lin Feng like a mountain.

“Bang!”

When he felt the might of that frightening Mental Energy, Lin Feng’s expression finally turned to one of horror. Just as he planned to use his Yuan Power to resist, the huge force gushed towards him. His knees weakened, with a loud bang, he fell to his knees on the training grounds.

“A mere initial Yuan Dan stage dares to be so impudent before me, who do you think you are?”

While Lin Feng's legs had been forced to kneel on the ground, Lin Dong's ice-cold voice, which seemed to cut directly into the bone, slowly sounded out.

Chapter 157: Lin Chen

“Such powerful Mental Energy!”

Lin Feng’s expression was colored with shock, he had utilised all the Yuan Power in his body, but, the Mental Energy that pushed down on his body was still like a mountain. He was unable to move at all and even breathing felt extremely difficult.

“How is this possible! How can a kid from a branch family be this strong?!”

A shocked expression on his face, Lin Feng’s heart was filled with disbelief. Although he was not considered the cream of the crop among the younger generation in the Lin Clan, he was still no mediocre member. Yet, the reality before his eyes told him that the youngster in front of him, who looked even younger than himself, was several times stronger than him!

To one side, Lin Qiang his buddy gazed at Lin Feng, who was practically kneeling before Lin Dong, as waves churned in their hearts. However, the sharp swords that hovered at their necks caused them to not dare to make even the slightest movement.

Lin Dong coldly looked at Lin Feng, who was tenaciously resisting the Mental Energy pressure, suddenly, the former lightly stepped forward.

“Bang!”

As Lin Dong's foot stepped forward, the Mental Energy pressure on Lin Feng's body once again intensified. Instantly, the latter's complexion turned deathly pale and his entire body was forcefully pushed flat onto the ground. He now looked to be in an extremely difficult situation.

“Shameless bastard!”

With the soil on the ground smeared on his face, Lin Feng almost instantly turned purple. Within his Dantian, vigorous Yuan Power frantically bubbled out and in that same moment, the Mental Energy pressure which was pressing down on his body suddenly dissipated. This kind of feeling where his energy now had no outlet to be released caused Lin Feng to feel a little depressed, until he wanted to vomit blood.

“Cough...”

Now that the Mental Energy pressure was gone, Lin Feng started to cough violently. Lin Dong indifferently glanced at the former, with a wave of his hand, the Mysterious Ice Swords on the other two's necks also returned.

“You seem to have many objections to me teaching martial arts?” Lin Dong turned his head and looked towards Lin Qiang and the rest as his icy voice sounded out.

“Gulp.”

Under Lin Dong's gaze, the hair on Lin Qiang and his body stood at ends. They looked at Lin Dong, terrified, as they hastily shook their heads. Even Lin Feng, who had reached the initial Yuan Dan stage, had been completely suppressed by Lin Dong without any chance to retaliate. If Lin Dong wanted to deal with them, he perhaps would not need to lift even a finger to force them to their knees and be unable to move.

“My god, how did such a monster appear in the branch family. With his strength, perhaps only big brother Lin Chen would be able to handle him...”

The two exchanged a look, both could see the astonishment in each other's eyes.

“If you have nothing else, please leave.”

Lin Dong casually said, while looking at Lin Feng, as he crawled up from the ground while wearing an extremely ugly expression. Lin Dong then walked back to the training area, as his voice sounded out: “Continue training.”

“Yes!”

After hearing Lin Dong's words, all of the Lin Family younger generation members gave a lively and concerted shout in reply. As they looked towards the former, their gazes became increasingly feverish. In their hearts, the Lin Clan had always been an especially formidable existence, yet, today, Lin Dong had used

reality to tell them that this so-called main clan was not impossible to beat.

“Brother Lin Feng!”

Upon seeing that Lin Dong had turned and left, Lin Qiang and his buddy finally dared to come over and help Lin Feng. All of them now wore pained looks on their faces, originally, they had wanted to go around and show off their might to these younger generation members of the branch clan, whom they did not have much knowledge of. Never did they imagine that, not only were they unable to show off, they had even lost quite a lot of face instead.

Lin Feng’s face alternated between green and white as he fiercely shook off Lin Qiang and the rest. He maliciously stared at Lin Dong’s back before turning to leave.

“Go, let’s look for big brother Lin Chen.”

Upon hearing Lin Feng’s low voice, joy surfaced in Lin Qiang’s and the rest’s eyes as they hastily caught up.

Lin Dong sat in the training grounds as he cast a glance to Lin Feng’s and his party’s leaving figures. His eyebrows once again slightly knitted together, he truly did not have any good feelings towards these Lin Clan members. Although they shared the same family name of ‘Lin’, the blood ties between them was likely already so weak that it was practically negligible.

“This time, the Lin Clan has come because of the old tomb, I wonder how many elite practitioners have been dispatched...”

Lin Dong thought to himself, it seems like the lure of the old tomb was indeed not small, even a faction at the level of the Lin Clan had been drawn here. However, this would mean that his chances to obtain something good from the tomb were also now a little smaller.

Somewhat helplessly sighing, Lin Dong shook his head and temporarily pushed aside such thoughts. This time, he needed to make a trip to the old tomb to put an end to the pain Qing Tan had been suffering from due to the her Qi devouring her body. As for other extremely precious treasures, which were enough to trigger huge battles, he would have to depend on his luck.

In any case, with Lin Dong’s power plus the little marten’s aid, as long as they did not encounter a Creation stage practitioner, they should be able to deal with anything else that came their way.

Lin Dong withdrew his thoughts as he continued to give guidance to the martial arts practising crowd. After about half an hour, a beautiful figure suddenly ran over while gasping for breath.

“Sister Lin Xia, what’s wrong?” As he gazed at the beautiful figure which had ran over, Lin Dong chuckled as he asked.

“Grandpa wants you to go to the hall.” Lin Xia held her stomach as she panted before suddenly speaking again: “Did you take care of those guys from the Lin Clan?”

“Why? Did they complain?” Lin Dong casually replied.

“There were no complaints but they seemed to have called for some reinforcements.” Lin Xia covered her mouth as she softly laughed. Soon after, her expression turned a little sterner as she said: “This time, I’m don’t know why, but quite a few people from the Lin Clan have come. Most of them are of the younger generation, with your strength, you have no need to worry about Lin Feng and the rest. However, there are two people you should be careful of.”

“Oh?”

“The two are one male and one female. I heard my father say that even among the main clan of the Lin Family, these two are considered elites. The male is called Lin Chen, while the girl is known as Lin Ke-er.” Lin Xia solemnly said.

“Oh.”

Lin Dong slightly smiled as he nodded his head, before he stood up and walked towards the guest hall while Lin Xia quickly followed. When they saw the two of them leave, the younger generation members in the training grounds also stopped their training. Their intuition told them that the following events would perhaps be rather exciting. Immediately, they turned to look at each other before stopping their training and quietly following.

When Lin Dong reached the guest hall, he was just in time to

hear laughs from within. Soon after, he stepped through the door as his gaze swept across the interior of the guest hall.

Within the guest hall, there were quite a few people. Besides Lin Zhentian, Lin Xiao and the rest, Lin Feng and his gang, who had been sorrily driven out previously, were also here. When they saw Lin Dong enter, a sneer seemed to flit across their eyes.

Lin Dong's gaze merely swept over Lin Feng and his gang before pausing at the two who were seated in front of them. The two consisted of one male and one female, the male looked about twenty four or five years of age, he had a tall and well built figure, while his appearance was also rather handsome. Dressed in splendid clothes, he truly looked like no ordinary individual.

The girl wore white female clothings and her elegant looks were quite moving. The most amazing thing about her was that there seemed to be two pupils within each of her eyes. At the fringe of her pupils, blue light seemed to flow, making it look extremely enchanting.

Among the younger generation in this place, only these two were able to cause Lin Dong's heart to shiver a little.

While Lin Dong was observing the two, both of them likewise cast their gazes towards him. The male slightly raised his eyebrows, on the corners of his mouth hung a mysterious smile, meanwhile, a little surprise flashed across the white clothed girl's beautiful eyes.

“These two should be the ones sister Lin Xia had mentioned, Lin Chen and Lin Ke-er...”

This thought flashed across Lin Dong’s mind as he walked into the guest hall and bowed respectfully towards Lin Zhentian, who was seated on the head’s seat.

“Hehe, Dong-er, this is the leader of the Lin Clan party this time. You should greet him as old mister Tao.” Upon seeing Lin Dong enter, Lin Zhentian indicated towards an elderly man in grey beside him as he chuckled and said.

“This young one greets old mister Tao.”

Lin Dong looked at the elderly man in grey as his expression slightly shivered. This old mister Tao’s strength was likely already at the perfect Yuan Dan stage. The Lin Clan’s power was indeed not to be underestimated, even a mere group leader possessed this level of strength.

“Hehe, he is indeed a talent. Looks like your wish will finally be fulfilled in the clan gathering two years later.” Old mister Tao chuckled as he looked at Lin Dong.

“Old Tao, the clan does not acknowledge one base on his looks.” Upon hearing old mister Tao’s words, the man seated beside the girl in white could not help but softly chuckle as he spoke.

After hearing this, old mister Tao also seemed a little

embarrassed. He helplessly glared at the man before turning his gaze towards Lin Zhentian: “Old friend, for our trip to the old tomb this time, you want me to bring Lin Dong?”

“Yes, Lin Dong is an excellent seedling, experiencing trials would be good for him. This time, I hope that you will take extra care of him.” Lin Zhentian earnestly said.

Old mister Tao muttered to himself for a moment before finally nodding his head: “Since you’ve asked, I might as well. I will do my best to ensure his safety.”

“Many thanks old friend.” Upon seeing him nod in agreement, Lin Zhentian was delighted, but, he was completely oblivious of Lin Dong’s depressed gaze.

“Wait!”

Just as Lin Zhentian expressed his thanks, a voice suddenly rang out at this inopportune moment. Old mister Tao’s eyebrows lightly furrowed as he looked towards the man who had spoken and said in a helpless tone: “Lin Chen, what is it now?”

“Old Tao, our trip to the old tomb this time is fairly important. If we so casually let anyone join and he becomes a burden, how would we be able to explain this to the elders when we return?” Lin Chen smiled as he spoke.

“Hehe, you do not need to worry about this. Given Lin Dong’s

strength, he will not become a burden.” Lin Zhentian hurriedly smiled as he said.

“Oh, old...mister Lin Zhentian, for this matter, words are useless. If he wants take advantage by following us, he should show that he has a little skill.”

Lin Chen raised his chin at Lin Dong, all smiles as he said: “Don’t you agree?”

At this point, everyone else also understood that this Lin Chen clearly desired to provoke Lin Dong. Behind Lin Chen, sneers were revealed on Lin Feng and his party of four, while Lin Zhentian’s the rest’s expressions turned slightly ugly.

“You!”

Lin Xia was not used to this guy’s domineering attitude. Immediately, her long, shapely eyebrows erected, while anger was revealed on the younger generation Lin Family members, who had already surrounded the guest hall.

“What do you want?”

As the implicated party, Lin Dong appeared rather calm.

“Have a friendly bout with me, if you can last ten rounds with me, I will give you the qualifications.” Lin Chen stood up as he coldly said.

Lin Dong turned and walked out of the guest hall.

“If I beat you, don’t mention this topic ever again!”

Chapter 158: Perfect Control

“Hehe, interesting...”

As he gazed at Lin Dong’s back, the smile on Lin Chen’s face grew even wider. Previously, he had seen Lin Feng’s and his party’s sorry figures, though he did not care much for these four trouble makers, they were after all still from the Lin Clan. If he allowed them to be bullied by a branch family in such a way, and word got out, it would likely damage the Lin Clan’s reputation.

And it was also because of this that Lin Chen deliberately made things difficult for Lin Dong, with the intention of arousing Lin Dong’s anger. Only then could Lin Chen have a bout with the latter and take the opportunity to help salvage a little of Lin Feng’s and the rest’s pride.

However, he had never expected that this youngster, who did not look older than twenty, would actually reply in such an arrogant manner.

“Lin Chen! Don’t go too far!”

When old mister Tao saw this scene, his eyebrows furrowed as he sternly shouted.

“Old Tao, it will be fine. It’s just a friendly bout, I will make sure to go easy on him.” Lin Chen indifferently laughed before lifting his leg and walking outside the guest hall. As the rest saw this, they looked at each other and then also hastily rushed out.

“Sigh, old friend, this guy’s temperament was always like this, please do not blame him.” Old mister Tao smiled painfully as he sighed.

Upon hearing this, Lin Zhentian magnanimously laughed. In his eyes, was a look that the elderly man in grey did not understand. It was as if he was not worried of losing any face in this match...

“Hehe, it’s just a bout between younger generation members, we should also go take a look. Take it as a little fun.”

Lin Zhentian, Lin Xiao and the rest exchanged a look as they knowingly laughed, before walking out of the guest hall. After the hardships over the past two years, their confidence in Lin Dong was already fairly large. Lin Dong did not fear even an elite practitioner like Yue shan, though this Lin Chen was strong, he could not possibly possess the capability to defeat Lin Dong in ten rounds.

Outside the guest hall was an empty field, however, this field was currently rather packed. Many of the Lin Family members had also gathered after hearing of the fight.

From a certain point of view, the Lin Clan was considered as a place that some Lin Family members yearned for. It was an outstandingly renowned and enormous faction in the Great Yan Empire. As a member, wherever one went in the Great Yan Empire, no one would dare to offend him, this was one of the benefits of fame and power.

Thus, many Lin Family members unknowingly held a little fear in the hearts of the Lin Clan. From their perspective, the people there were all tigers and dragons. However, over the past one or two years, Lin Dong's various achievements had allowed them to understand, that even if they were branch family members, they could still surpass those main clan members who received excellent treatment and resources since birth!

And this match, would thoroughly prove that!

...

Lin Dong hands hung at his side as he gazed at Lin Chen, who was strolling out from the guest hall. Lin Dong's expression was calm and he chose to ignore the four sneering people behind Lin Chen.

Lin Chen's footsteps slowly came to halt somewhere near to Lin Dong. Under the rays of the sun, the former's palms seemed to reflect a jade-like luster.

"This match will be an ordinary bout. Do not injure your opponent, or else you will be severely punished!" Old mister Tao's gaze swept over the two parties before he sternly declared.

"Don't worry."

Lin Chen lazily replied, he did not intend to take Lin Dong's life. The former only wanted the latter to understand that the branch

family could never hope to challenge the main clan!

“Are you ready?” Lin Chen chuckled as he looked towards Lin Dong.

Lin Dong still did not speak, with a thought, three Mysterious Ice Swords and the Ever-Flame Sword flew out from his Qiankun bag. They circled around his body, and as the sharp blades streaked through the air, a faint wind sound could be heard.

“As expected, a Symbol Master...” At this sight, Lin Chen’s eyebrow raised, while, to one corner, an interested look surfaced in Lin Ke-er’s azure eyes.

“Swish!”

Lin Dong’s finger lightly flicked and the four swords transformed into shadows as they violently swept forward. Wrapped by vigorous Mental Energy, their might was enough to pierce through stone!

Upon seeing Lin Dong make his move, Lin Chen also laughed as an exceptionally vigorous Yuan Power instantly burst out from his body!

Yuan Power bubbled forth, causing Lin Chen’s particularly pale hands to suddenly become crystal-like. Portions of formidable Pure Yuangang energy swiftly gathered in his palms, and then, he took a single step forward, as his hands danced, leaving after images in

the air as they heavily slammed against the blades.

“Clang clang!”

Sword and fist collided, as a clear metallic ‘clang’ sound rang out. Sparks flew as the four blades were directly blown back.

“Advanced Yuan Dan stage...”

After this initial exchange, Lin Dong’s eyes flashed. He had thoroughly grasped Lin Chen’s strength, however, the latter was clearly stronger than Wei Tong, so much so that he was probably already half a foot in the perfect Yuan Dan stage!

“As expected of one from the main clan.” Towards Lin Chen’s strength, Lin Dong could not help but be a little amazed. Based on this person’s pace, he would perhaps be able to completely advance to the perfect Yuan Dan stage in one or two years. This kind of speed was already pretty good. The fact that he was able to be considered as one of the elite members of the Lin Clan younger generation, meant that he was indeed somewhat capable.

“Haha, try my Jade Destruction Hand!”

After blowing away the four blades, Lin Chen let out a hearty laugh. A faint jade-like stream seemed to flow on his long palms as portions of Pure Yuangang energy gathered on his palms. Quickly, he dashed towards Lin Dong, as the formidable power on his palms seem to emit a low sonic boom.

“Such power!”

When they saw the might of Lin Chen’s palm attack, many of the crowd’s expression somewhat changed. From what they saw, this so-called Jade Destruction Hand seemed to be at least a level four martial arts!

The incoming wind from the attack seemed to cause Lin Dong’s clothes to whimper. As he gazed at Lin Chen, who had already appeared in front of him in the blink of an eye, Lin Dong did not utilise any Mental Energy in response. Instead, the sole of his foot lightly stamped on the ground as strong Yuan Power abruptly exploded out from his body.

“Initial Yuan Dan stage?”

When he sensed the strength of Lin Dong’s Yuan Power, the corners of Lin Chen’s mouth slightly curled upwards.

Yuan Power rushed forth as Lin Dong’s hands swiftly formed a series of strange seals. While the seals changed, the space within his palms abruptly turned bright.

Wonder Gate Seal, fourth layer!

Lin Dong’s Yuan Power was already at the peak of the initial Yuan Dan stage, he only lacked that single step to reach the advanced Yuan Dan stage. Meanwhile, the power of the fourth

layer of Wonder Gate Seal could be comparable to level five martial arts. Now, the might of its full powered utilisation was not to be looked down upon!

Hand seals swiftly changed as the Yuan Power undulations in between Lin Dong's hands turned increasingly terrifying. A seal of light, the size of a head, took shape at the center of the light, as ripples of Yuan Power, which could be seen with the naked eye, swiftly spread outwards.

When he sensed that Yuan Power undulations, old mister Tao's expression turned a little serious. Astonishment filled his heart, evidently, he did not expect that Lin Dong had actually mastered such a formidable martial arts.

“Excellent!”

Upon realizing that Lin Dong actually still had this martial art, Lin Chen's eyes shined as the jade luster on his hands grew increasingly intense.

“Jade Shattering Claw!”

Lin Chen's palm style changed and transformed into claws. An extremely formidable force pulsed on the claws, as the jade luster instantly transform into solid jade, while emitting a chillingly white glow.

The two parties attacks were both formidably terrifying, causing

the onlookers hearts to tremble.

The light seal shot out from the space between Lin Dong's palms as it streaked across the air, leaving a bright trail of light. Several breaths later, it heavily shot towards Lin Chen under numerous nervous gazes.

“You overestimate yourself!”

Upon seeing that Lin Dong actually wanted to confront him directly with martial arts and Yuan Power, Lin Chen could not help but sneer in his heart. The claw suddenly erected for a moment before the jade-like claw ruthlessly tore apart the seal of light.

“Bang!”

Formidable Pure Yuangang energy frantically erupted and the soil on the ground was directly blown away. It seemed to dance as it filled the air, as a deep and harsh gash flashed into existence.

Everyone held their breaths as they gazed at the spot where the light seal and jade claw had collided.

“Shatter!”

Waves of powerful Yuan Power undulations frantically spread outwards as a formidable glint suddenly flashed across Lin Chen's eyes. Without reservation, all the Yuan Power in his Dantian

gushed out, as the jade glow on the claws drastically intensified!

“Chi!”

The jade glow rushed forth and to the astonishment of the crowd, they watched as the extremely powerful light seal was directly torn apart!

“Excellent!”

At this sight, Lin Feng and the rest were delighted as they involuntarily cheered out, while a trace of worry surfaced in Lin Xia’s and the other Lin Family younger generation members’ eyes.

“You’ve lost!”

Forcefully tearing apart the light seal, a smile also appeared on Lin Chen’s face.

“That may not be so...”

As Lin Dong glanced at Lin Chen, he let out an indifferent laugh.

After hearing Lin Dong’s laughter, Lin Chen was initially stunned before his pupils suddenly shrunk. He watched as the light seal he had forcefully torn apart suddenly exploded. A seemingly material Mental Energy helix, the size of a palm, strangely appeared from the explosion, before it zipped forward at an astonishing speed.

This abrupt turn of events finally caused shock to color Lin Chen's eyes. His claws danced as they hastily grabbed at the Mental Energy helix that was shooting towards him.

“Bang bang!”

The spiralling Mental Energy cone heavily slammed onto Lin Chen's claws, causing the jade glow on his hands to be scattered inch by inch as the terrifying and huge force directly jolted Lin Chen backwards, while he raggedly retreated.

“Swish!”

The spiralling Mental Energy cone transformed into a glowing shadow as it violently shot towards Lin Chen's forehead. In response, the latter also frantically retreated, however, no matter how he utilised Yuan Power to obstruct it, his defences crumbled at a startling speed under the attack of the spiralling Mental Energy cone!

Only now did Lin Chen finally understand that Lin Dong's true killing blow was not the seal of light, but, the Mental Energy cone hidden within it!

“Such terrifying control!”

This thought flashed across Lin Chen's mind, he understood very clearly the harsh requirements needed to conceal a Mental Energy

attack within Yuan Power.

“Bang!”

The violently retreating figure suddenly stopped as Lin Chen’s back heavily slammed into a stone pillar. In his eyes, the spiralling Mental Energy cone rapidly grew larger.

“I concede!”

Deeply inhaling a mouthful of air, Lin Chen hastily shouted out.

“Bang!”

As Lin Chen’s shout left his mouth, the swiftly approaching Mental Energy cone suddenly came to a standstill. With a ‘bang’, it burst apart and slowly faded away into nothingness...

Chapter 159: Advanced Yuan Dan stage

As they stared at Lin Chen's body, which was still as it plastered itself to the rock pillar, the crowd turned silent. Meanwhile, the smile on Lin Feng's and the rest's faces instantly froze...

Lin Chen's defeat had practically happened in a flash. At first, he seemed to have the upper hand, however, in the next moment, all of his advantages seemed to have crumbled due to the sudden appearance of that revolving Mental Energy cone.

This final result caused even that elderly man to be stunned. It was a long while before he finally regained his senses. After all, he was keenly aware of Lin Chen's strength. Even though that fellow was arrogant, he was indeed quite skilled. Yet, the situation now...

“A young talent has emerged. Congratulations, old friend!”

Old mister Tao sighed deeply, before he cupped his hands and congratulated Lin Zhentian. Based on the strength that Lin Dong has displayed, in two years, he would probably excel at the Lin Clan gathering. At that time, Lin Zhentian's wish of returning to the Lin Clan would finally be fulfilled.

Lin Zhentian smiled as he waved his hand. Though he humbly replied, the pride and admiration in his eyes were unconcealable.

“Good job, brother Lin Dong!”

The Lin Family younger generation members who were crowding around, began to shout out at this moment. Lin Dong had used his abilities to prove that these so-called Lin Clan members could be defeated as well!

“Impressive Mental Energy control...”

Lin Ke-er’s beautiful azure eyes swept across Lin Dong’s body, as an intrigued smile surfaced on her lips. She could tell that Lin Dong was truly formidable, especially in his control over Mental Energy. For his previous attack, perhaps others were unable to see, but she was able to discover that when Lin Dong was condensing the glowing seal, he was also secretly forming his Mental Energy attack. His ability to fuse and control Yuan Power and Mental Energy resulted in this unexpected and strange ending.

Furthermore, at the last moment, he was able to casually dissipate the Mental Energy cone. This indicated that Lin Dong was highly proficient in controlling his Mental Energy.

“I never expected that there was actually such a talent in this branch family. It’s no wonder Lin Chen lost...” Lin Ke-er muttered to herself.

Under the gazes of the crowd, Lin Chen’s face turned slightly ugly. However, he was not such a sore loser. Immediately, he clenched his hand before he somewhat disgruntledly said to Lin Dong: “No wonder you were so unbridled. It’s because you are indeed skilled. This time, I admit my loss.”

Lin Dong's face was calm, as he was not too overjoyed after defeating Lin Chen. Even though the latter was almost at the perfect Yuan Dan stage, at this level, he posed little threat to Lin Dong.

After he withdrew his gaze from Lin Chen, Lin Dong suddenly turned to look at that lady in white, who was standing to the rear. When the latter saw him, she also smiled back sweetly.

“This woman is not simple...”

Lin Dong stared at Lin Ke-er, as this thought suddenly flashed across his mind. He had no idea where this thought came from, however, for no particular reason, in his heart, he felt that this woman was probably stronger than Lin Chen.

“You must always embarrass yourself before you stop.” Old mister Tao, who was standing on the stone steps, looked helplessly at Lin Chen, as he said.

“Do you believe that he will not drag us down now?”

Lin Chen was a little resentful. If he still insist that the person who beat him would drag them down, then wouldn't he be even more of a burden?

“Haha, old friend. So this matter is decided. Lin Dong is not weak. Perhaps we may require his assistance on this trip.” Old mister Tao turned his head, before he smiled at Lin Zhentian and

said.

Upon hearing these words, Lin Zhentian smiled as he nodded his head. Turning his head, he said to Lin Dong: “Dong-er, this trip to the old tomb is a rare opportunity. In three days, you shall follow Old mister Tao to Sky Flame Mountain Range, Along the way, remember to follow Old mister Tao’s instructions.”

When he heard these words, Lin Dong could not help but roll his eyes. However, as he looked at Lin Zhentian’s sincere expression, he could only nod his head. Secretly, inside his heart, he planned to look for an opportunity to sneak away. After all, based on his current strength and with assistance from small marten, even though he dare not guarantee that he would obtain precious treasures, he would at least have a decent chance.

However, if he travelled with these Lin Clan member, he may not receive any benefits at all.

Lin Zhentian naturally did not know that Lin Dong was currently secretly planning leave the team. Hence, when he saw the latter nod his head, he smiled in satisfaction. Then, he invited them back into the guest hall. After some chatting, when the sky turned dark, he instructed someone to bring them to the guest quarters.

Lin Dong had left long before they dispersed. First, he went to check on Qing Tan, and when he realized that the latter had fallen asleep, he returned to his own small courtyard.

...

Inside a room that was gently lit by soft candle light, Lin Dong was seated on his bed with his eyes tightly shut. Streams of Yuan Power formed from the air around him, before they endlessly poured into his body.

This training continued on for roughly two hours, before Lin Dong gradually opened his eyes, and furrowed his eyebrows. Right now, he was able to sense that he had reached the pinnacle of the initial Yuan Dan stage. Therefore, all he needed was one final push to successfully breakthrough!

This trip to the old tomb was naturally not going to be a peaceful one. However, based on his current strength, plus, the aid from small marten, he should be able to handle most troubles that came his way. Nonetheless, this old tomb managed to attract several elite practitioners. Therefore, if he could become stronger, it would definitely increase his odds of survival.

Hence, before this trip, he would do everything he could to increase his strength!

As he thought of this point, a determined glint flashed across Lin Dong's eyes. He flipped his hand and removed a jade box from within his Qiankun bog. As he opened the box, a potent medicinal smell began to spread inside the room.

Resting inside the jade box was a vermilion round fruit. This was the grade six elixir that Lin Dong had obtained just days before, the Blood Vermilion Devil Fruit!

As he stared at this Blood Vermilion Devil Fruit, Lin Dong deeply inhaled that potent fragrance, as a satisfied look emerged on his face. Compared to a grade five elixir, this grade six elixir was several times more powerful.

Lin Dong extended his palm forth, as it hovered above the Blood Vermilion Devil Fruit. Immediately, the Stone Talisman embedded within Lin Dong's palm began to vibrate slightly, as streams of unique light beams emerged from his hand, before they completely surrounded that Blood Vermilion Devil Fruit.

“Buzz buzz!”

As it was surrounded by that Stone Talisman light beams, the Blood Vermilion Devil Fruit slowly began to float. Meanwhile, signs of withering also began to appear on its surface...

The rate at which the fruit withered was extremely slow and totally different from when he had refined grade five or four elixirs before. However, Lin Dong was fairly patient as well, as he slowly waited for that Blood Vermilion Devil Fruit to wither.

As he waited, three hours passed by.

Three hours later, that Blood Vermilion Devil Fruit was thoroughly sucked dry. Soon after, its skin began to turn into dust as it rapidly fell off. When all the dust disappeared, three exceptional dark elixir pills slowly appeared in front of Lin Dong's eyes.

Extending his hand, he very carefully picked up these three dark elixir pills. When they touched his hand, Lin Dong could instantly feel the frightening medicinal power contained within. Immediately, delight surfaced in his eyes. The medicinal power contained within was several times that of a grade five elixir!

“As expected of a grade six elixir!”

After he praised out in his heart, Lin Dong did not immediately swallow this grade six elixir pill. Instead, he chose to recuperate for half an hour, before he finally opened his eyes again. Then, without further ado, one grade six elixir pill clenched between his fingers was jammed into his mouth.

“Thud!”

When that grade six elixir pill entered his mouth, it almost instantly turned into a massive flood, as it gushed forth towards Lin Dong’s limbs at an astonishing rate. In fact, even a layer of Yuan Power mist began to emerge on the surface of Lin Dong’s body, and completely wrapped around his body.

Taking in a deep breath, Lin Dong hastily began to activate the ‘Tri Sun Art’, plus, the Secret Spirit Skill the small marten had taught him in order to increase his absorption rate. Right now, as he utilized this skill, a Mental Energy vortex formed above his Dantian as it frantically absorbed that pure medicinal energy that was coursing through his body, before depositing them into his Dantian.

Thanks to this massive inflow, that thumb-sized Yuan Dan, with a trace of dark gold, inside his Dantian began to spin rapidly. Its small body had seemingly become a bottomless pit. No matter how much Yuan Power was poured in, it did not exhibit any signs of stopping.

Of course, due to this massive inflow, the size of his Yuan Dan, began to slowly grow as it swirled. Meanwhile, the Yuan Power that undulated from within also began to grow stronger.

This infusion lasted for the whole night, before all the pure medicinal power coursing through Lin Dong's body was gradually absorbed...

When that last bit of pure energy was transformed into Yuan Power and deposited inside his Dantian, having worked for an entire night, the inside of Lin Dong's body suddenly became extremely quiet.

“Buzz buzz!”

However, this silence only lasted for a split second. Immediately, that now peach-sized Yuan Dan inside his Dantian began to buzz.

As it buzzed, the trace of dark golden color on the surface of his Yuan Dan suddenly began to expand rapidly. In less than half a minute, that trace of dark golden colour had directly covered half of his Yuan Dan!

“Boom!”

As his Yuan Dan was being dyed in gold, an extremely formidable Yuan Power, just like a volcano, erupted forth. Right now, a dark golden luster could be seen within his Yuan Power!

A dark golden Yuan Power was flowing within his Dantian, like a golden river that was filled with mystery!

When that dark golden Yuan Power burst forth, Lin Dong's eyes, which were shut for the whole night, suddenly opened, as a dazzling dark golden beam shot out. Meanwhile, an extremely formidable aura slowly began to spread outwards from his body.

Advanced Yuan Dan stage!

Chapter 160: Sky Flame Mountain Range

As he felt the surging Yuan Power coursing through his channels, an immense delight surfaced on Lin Dong's face. He could clearly feel that, the amount of Yuan Power contained within the Yuan Dan inside his Dantian, and its vigorousness, was several times that of initial Yuan Dan stage!

“The advanced Yuan Dan stage is indeed impressive...”

Lin Dong gently sighed. Only after he had personally experienced the enriching feeling brought about by the Yuan Power inside of him, did he understand how powerful this cultivation stage was. Based on his predictions, the current him had an over sixty percent chance of beating Lin Chen, even without the use of Mental Energy!

Even though he had only just advanced to advanced Yuan Dan stage, Lin Dong's Yuan Dan was an eight star Yuan Dan. Therefore, the purity of his Yuan Power was several times that of an ordinary practitioner. Based on that fact alone, it was possible for him to defeat Lin Chen, who was half a step away from the perfect Yuan Dan stage.

“Based on my current strength, even if I encounter a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner, I need not be fearful!”

While Lin Dong had yet to reach the advanced Yuan Dan stage, he could still use his abilities as a third seal Symbol Master and a small Yuan Dan stage practitioner to battle with Yue Shan. Now

that his Yuan Power had progressed, his combat abilities naturally surged again. In the future, even if he met a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner like Yue Shan, Lin Dong was confident that they would not have any advantage over him.

As he deeply exhaled a puff of white Qi, Lin Dong's fist slowly tightened. Now, all his preparations were completed and he could only wait to embark on his journey.

“This time, I want to find out what is so special about this old tomb that has attracted so many elite practitioners.”

Ever since he successfully advanced to the advanced Yuan Dan stage, in the remaining days, Lin Dong did not go outside. This was because the frequency of Qing Tan's cold Qi outbreaks had become increasing rapidly. Therefore, the majority of his time was spent beside this poor girl that was being tormented by Yin Energy.

In the following days, Lin Chen and the rest from Lin Clan also stayed at the Lin Family's estate. However, after they were put in their place by Lin Dong, they no longer dared to put on airs in front of the Lin Family younger generation members. Thus, time passed swiftly and in peace.

When the morning rays of the third day shone on the land, after a night of silence, Yan City's atmosphere once again heated up. Over these past few days, news of the old tomb had spread at a terrifying pace. In fact, this even caused every city near the Sky Flame Mountain Range to become increasingly heated. Numerous people hurried towards this city to prepare themselves, before they headed towards the Sky Flame Mountain Range in packs.

A Nirvana practitioner's tomb held an extreme allure towards anyone.

Everyone knew that even if you were an invalid, if you were lucky enough to stumble upon the Nirvana Heart, then, you would also possess the ability to advance to the Creation stage. Therefore, for many people, this was an item that could alter their destiny.

As long as one could advance to the Creation stage, regardless of who you were, you would become hailed as an elite practitioner. After all, a Creation stage practitioner had never appeared even in the ranks of the powerful Blood Wolf Gang or the Thousand Gold Association. This goes to show how difficult it was to advance to the Creation stage.

While Yan City became increasingly bustling, at the front courtyard of Lin Family, old mister Tao, Lin Chen and the other Lin Clan members had long since finished their preparations and were waiting. Therefore, once Lin Dong arrived, they were all geared up and ready to go.

“Haha, since we have all arrived, let's go.”

Old mister Tao looked at Lin Dong, before pausing at Little Flame beside him, as astonishment surfaced in the former's eyes. Evidently, old mister Tao did not expect that Lin Dong actually owned such a ferocious pet.

“Dong-er, be careful.” Lin Xiao said in concern as he patted Lin

Dong's shoulders.

“Don't worry father.”

Lin Dong smiled, then, under the envious gazes of Lin Chen and the rest, he hopped onto Little Flame as he turned and said: “Old mister Tao, let's go.”

After getting to know each other over these two days, Lin Dong already knew that this old mister Tao's name was Wu Tao and he was a sinecure of the Lin Clan.

“We'll be taking our leave.”

When he heard Lin Dong's voice, old mister Tao smiled. Clasp- ing his hands at Lin Zhentian and the rest, he kicked his horse as he led the way forward. Behind him, Lin Chen, Lin Ke-er and the rest swiftly followed.

Lin Dong bid Lin Zhentian and the rest goodbye. Without further ado, he gently patted the tiger's back. Little Flame released a deep growl, before it transformed into a fiery red shadow and dashed forward.

As they stared at Lin Dong's and the party's departing figures, Lin Zhentian and the rest looked at each other as they smiled. They were keenly aware that based on Lin Dong's potential, even this Yan City could not tie him down. Therefore, only by interacting more with other elite practitioners from outside, could

Lin Dong grow and achieve his full potential.

Sky Flame Mountain Range was situated at the border area between Yan City and two other cities. This mountain range was extremely wide and it nearly traversed across half of Tiandu province. In fact, it would not be an exaggeration to call it Tiandu province's number one mountain range.

Sky Flame Mountain Range was extremely wide and broad. Contained within were numerous vicious Demonic Beasts. In fact, it was said that if one ventured too deeply within, a single moment of carelessness would cause even an elite Creation stage practitioner to be in deep trouble. Therefore, usually, other than some professional Demonic Beast hunters, there was hardly anyone who ventured into Sky Flame Mountain Range.

Of course, this saying was immediately dismissed after news of the old tomb spread. Under the allure of a Nirvana practitioner's tomb, this so-called danger was immediately forgotten as greed overwhelmed their minds.

Hence, the originally peaceful Sky Flame Mountain Range transformed into a tourist hotspot in just half a month. Inside the mountains, one could easily spot another person from time to time.

As a terrifying amount of people flowed in, who knew how many of them ended up as fertilizers for these woods. However, everyone knew that if one wanted to cross Sky Flame Mountain Range and successful reach the old tomb, one must have a few tricks up his sleeve. Else, even if one could evade the Demonic Beasts, perhaps

at the next moment, he would be killed by a hidden trap.

Overall, the journey across Sky Flame Mountain Range was packed with danger and losing one's life due to a tiny misstep was extremely common.

The journey from Yan City to Sky Flame Mountain Range took approximately one day. Therefore, when Lin Dong and the rest reached the outskirts of Sky Flame Mountain Range, the sky was already turning dark. Faintly, one could see some camp fires inside the woods.

“Today, let's set up camp here on the outskirts. Tomorrow, we shall proceed into the Sky Flame Mountain Range.” Old mister Tao looked at the skies, before he waved his hand, indicating for the party to slow down as he instructed.

With regards to his instructions, no one had a second opinion, and Lin Chen and the rest quickly acknowledged. Then, guards, which had came along, began to set up a campsite in an exceedingly efficient manner. Soon after, a simple campsite emerged on this empty space.

“Old mister Tao, news of this old tomb has spread for quite some time. Will it be too late for us to go now?” As they were resting, Lin Dong smiled as he asked. Upon arriving at this Sky Flame Mountain Range, he finally realized how many people had been attracted by that old tomb. Based on these numbers, if they were to all rush into that old tomb, there would probably be nothing left right?

“Haha, don’t worry. That Nirvana stage practitioner had set up an energy seal outside the old tomb. Even though much time has passed since then, and the seal has weakened, some lucky fellows may be able to sneak in. However, they are unable to venture deep into the tomb. After all, most ordinary people don’t have the power to break the seal.” Old mister Tao smiled as he said.

“Even a perfect Yuan Dan practitioner?” Lin Dong’s eyebrows lightly furrowed. Evidently, he did not expect that it would be so troublesome to enter that old tomb.

“Nope. It would take at least one who has advanced to the Creation stage.”

Old mister Tao shook his head, before he promptly smiled and said: “Do you really think that the Lin Clan has sent only us to investigate this old tomb? Strictly speaking, we are merely here to scout the place. The real elite practitioners will arrive soon. As for the seal, we will have to rely on them to break it.”

“Elite practitioners that have advanced to the Creation stage...” When he heard these words, Lin Dong’s facial expression slightly changed. Even though he had already anticipated that this old tomb would definitely attract some truly powerful individuals, when he heard it personally, his heart could not help but tighten.

“It’s no wonder I doubted their abilities before, it seems like they are only here to as the vanguard...”

Lin Dong let out a bitter laugh in his heart. The Lin Clan was indeed a massive and legendary faction in the Great Yan Empire. Just for this old tomb, they actually sent out such powerful practitioners.

“Oh, by the way, for this contest over the old tomb, who did the elders send as the leader?” While Lin Dong was bitterly laughing, Lin Feng suddenly asked out of curiosity.

“Haha, who else could it be? It’s not like you guys can’t guess who it is.” Upon hearing these words, old mister Tao chuckled as he said..

“Could it be...” After seeing this, Lin Chen and the rest, and even Lin Ke-er were taken aback, as a delight surfaced in their eyes: “Is it big brother Lin Langtian?”

“Lin Langtian!”

Standing aside, Lin Dong’s footsteps abruptly stopped. The fist in his sleeves instantly clenched tightly, as his eyes began to flicker frantically. Meanwhile, his heart also began to beat violently.

This name... ever since six years ago, he had never forgotten it!

Countless times, when he could no longer endure the pain of training, he would silently murmur this name, and then, forcefully suppressed the pain and exhaustion in his body...

And in several days, he would finally be able to personally meet this person, the one whose name he had mumbled for six years, the person he had hated for six years!

Lin Langtian!

Chapter 161: Song Dao

The next day, when morning arrived, Sky Flame Mountain Range became extremely noisy. Several groups packed up their tents, before they successively proceeded deeper into the mountains. Most of them seemed to be in a hurry. Based on their appearances, it seemed like they were deadly afraid that if they were a second too late, all the treasures in that old tomb would be snatched away. In Lin Dong's eyes, they seemed a little silly.

“Let's go.”

Old man Tao waved his hand as he instructed the guards to keep the tents. Then, without further ado, he straightaway proceeded towards the inner part of the mountain. Meanwhile, Lin Feng and the rest swiftly followed behind.

When they entered the forests inside the mountains, the sky seemed to have darkened quite a bit, as a faintly oppressive atmosphere enshrouded the crowd's hearts. When they faintly heard the roars of Demonic Beasts from a distance away, the smiles on their faces dampened a little. Everyone knew that in such place, it was not rare for one tiny misstep to easily cost one's life.

There were many groups of people venturing into the mountains. Lin Dong and his party saw dozens of groups heading in the same direction as them. The size of these groups were varied, and they were fairly cautious of one another. Therefore, when they entered the mountains, they all moved their separate ways.

Lin Dong and his party took no notice of the other group's actions. Old man Tao and the rest was obviously well prepared, as he possessed an extremely detailed map of Sky Flame Mountain Range. Thus, there was no need for them to do any meaningless exploring, as they traversed through the shortest route and quickly advanced towards the deeper parts of the mountains.

As they quickly advanced, the rowdy atmosphere behind them gradually faded away. At the same time, old man Tao's facial expression became increasingly concentrated and vigilant. Sky Flame Mountain Range was filled with Demonic Beasts, some of which were exceedingly formidable. In fact, over this period of time, who knows how many had already lost their lives in these mountains.

Lin Dong sat on Little Flame's back, his face remained calm and collected. However, threads of Mental Energy constantly permeated the area, as he carefully monitored his surroundings.

"There is a group ahead of us. There are quite a number of them and there is a blood-stench coming from them. However, it's not from Demonic Beasts." As they cautiously made their way forward, an experienced middle-aged guard suddenly stopped as he softly reported.

"Continue on."

Old man Tao lightly nodded his head and was not surprised. Everyone here had come for the old tomb. Besides their own crew, everyone else was a competitor. Therefore, it was not uncommon for fights to occur within these mountains.

When he saw that old man Tao had no intention to take a detour, the guards also nodded their heads. However, their grips on their blades slowly tightened.

Lin Dong's eyes slightly narrowed as he stared at the forested area to the front. Nearby, he could sense several auras, in fact, he even detected a pretty powerful aura there. Based on that aura, it was probably a perfect Yuan Dan stage existence.

When he noticed how powerful that aura was, Lin Dong could only secretly sigh in his heart. The appeal of this old tomb was truly tremendous. Shortly after venturing into Sky Flame Mountain Range, they had already encountered a faction that would not lose out to the Blood Wolf Gang

While Lin Dong secretly sighed, his group has already passed through the thicket. Soon after, a dozen figures appeared on the empty space before them.

When Lin Dong's group appeared, the dozens of people resting on the ground immediately picked up the weapons by their sides, as they turned and to stare at the new arrivals with malicious gazes.

Instantly, the atmosphere became extremely tense.

Lin Dong's eyes swept across the crowd, before it stopped at a man in the center. The man's body was extremely well-built, with a tiger's back and bear's waist. He was bare-armed and hideous scars spread across his entire arm, causing him to look extremely

menacing. Based on his appearance, he seemed like a character whose sword constantly tasted blood.

“Perfect Yuan Dan stage.”

Lin Dong’s eyes swept across this man, as his eyes slightly narrowed. It seems like this man was probably the head of this group. His strength was indeed not weak. Furthermore, based on their well coordinated actions, it was clear that they belonged to the same faction. However, which city they hailed from was a mystery.

“There are even two advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioners.”

Lin Dong’s gaze swept across that man, before it paused for a moment at the two figures beside him, as he could not help but feel a little surprised in his heart. This group was a cut above the Blood Wolf Gang.

“Move.”

Old man Tao’s gaze calmly swept across this group of people. Without any further words, he waved his hands and led his group forward.

When they saw Lin Dong and the rest directly walked towards them, a menacing glint flashed across this group’s eyes. Meanwhile, the grips on their weapons, which still had traces of blood on them, became increasingly tighter.

The two squads gradually approached each other, until both parties were merely meters apart, as the atmosphere seemed to freeze.

Under old man Tao's lead, his group brushed past the other party. However, just as they thought that they had successfully passed by, a hand suddenly stretched out and pressed at Lin Ke-er's white horse.

"Heh heh, such a beautiful lass. Why don't you come down and play?"

When she heard these offensive remarks, Lin Ke-er's beautiful face instantly turned ice-cold. Without the slightest bit of hesitation, she waved her lily-white hand, as a cold shadow immediately exploded from her sleeves.

"Ding!"

The cold shadow shot out, but, the owner of that palm was also evidently prepared. His blade swept in an arc and managed to ward off that cold shadow. However, the massive force from the cold shadow still managed to jolt him two steps back.

In the same instance when Lin Ke-er was stopped, over at Lin Dong's side, a long blade cut the air in front of him. The practitioner who had reached the advanced Yuan Dan stage tilted his head, as he gave Lin Dong an especially bright smile and said: "Kid, why don't you give me your mount?"

Before he could finish his words, an exceedingly formidable sword shadow rapidly enlarged in his pupils, causing him to hurriedly retreat as he withdrew his blade.

“Clang!”

The sword shadow heavily struck the back of that blade , as the resulting force caused the latter’s arms to turn numb. Hastily retreating, he nearly fell to the ground.

“Chiung chiung!”

This exchange had instantly broken the atmosphere. Both parties immediately drew their weapons, as Yuan Power undulations began to gush forth on this vacant space.

Lin Dong was calm as he took a look at that man that had been raggedly jolted back. Right now, the latter was staring at him maliciously with an intense murderous look.

Lin Dong glanced at this person. He could see that these guys were all a little reckless, evidently, they were seasoned criminals. This kind of person were unreasonable and wild. Regardless of your status, as long as they were stronger than you, they would dare to do anything.

As his eyes swept across this group of people, Lin Dong’s gaze suddenly stopped at the figure in the middle. Immediately, his eyes

slightly focused.

Old man Tao's expression suddenly darkened when these guys made their move. He abruptly took one step forward, as his perfect Yuan Dan stage aura completely gushed forth.

The powerful aura dampened the aggressiveness of these fellows. Even though they were reckless individuals, they also needed to take into account how tough an opponent they were facing.

“Halt!”

As old man Tao displayed his strength, the man whose arms were covered in scars, finally opened his mouth. As he waved his palm, all the ferocious looking fellows

slowly put down the weapons in their hands. However, they continued to stare at Lin Dong and his party maliciously.

“Hah, I am known as Song Dao. This has been a misunderstanding. My brothers do not really understand the rules. If we have offended you, please forgive us.” The bare-armed man smiled as he cupped his hands and apologized to old man Tao.

Old man Tao nonchalantly glanced at him. Based on his deductive abilities, he naturally knew that these fellows only wanted to find out his strength. If he had not reached the perfect Yuan Dan stage, it was likely that this group would probably attack them for real.

“Leave.”

Old man Tao did not intend to chat with Song Dao. Even though the Lin Clan was extremely well-known, to these criminals whose lives were constantly on the line, it did not have much effect. Therefore, he indifferently commanded as he led Lin Feng and the rest forward.

Lin Ke-er sat on her horse, as her beautiful azure eyes turned to glance at these fellows, a chilly light flickering in her eyes. However, she did not take any further action, as she steered her horse and swiftly caught up.

As Lin Dong his party slowly disappeared into the forest, the tense atmosphere slowly dissipated.

“Boss, we are letting them go? That wench was truly something, I really want to see if she will still be so cold and haughty after I strip her naked.” As he gazed at Lin Dong and the rest while they disappeared into the woods, the man who had previously stopped Lin Ke-er licked his lips as a weird laughter rang out.

“That kid’s ride was pretty suave. It seemed to be a Fire Python Tiger. If we could capture it, we could definitely trade it for a great deal of Yang Yuan Stones.” The other man also somewhat disgruntledly remarked.

“They are strong and won’t be easy to deal with.”

Song Dao coldly chuckled as he said: “Besides, we still have some business to attend to. If you want a beauty, Chief Manager Su from the Thousand Gold Association is even better.”

“Chief Manager Su from the Thousand Gold Association?” When they heard these words, a lustful gaze emerged in several of their eyes.

“Tell them.” Song Dao tilted his head, as he stared at a figure hidden among his crew. On that figure’s clothes, was the symbol of a blood red wolf head.

“Boss Song Dao, the Thousand Gold Association has also come to this Sky Flame Mountain Range. Xia Wanjin and Liu Xuansu are among them. Right now, our Blood Wolf Gang is tailing them. Once boss Song Dao brings his troops over, we will be able to decimate the Thousand Gold Association. Heh heh, our sect leader has also said that after we take care of the Thousand Gold Association, the compensation will surely please you.” The figure smiled as he respectfully said.

“The Thousand Gold Association...they are quite powerful as well. This is not the first time your sect leader has dealings with me. Hence, he should know the price. If he is unable to pay it, don’t blame me if things turn ugly between us.” Song Dao thought about it for a moment, before he coldly said.

“Boss Song Dao don’t worry!” Upon hearing these words, that person was instantly delighted.

“Let’s go and join up with the Blood Wolf Gang. We shall accept this deal.” Song Dao chuckled, before he waved his hand and said.

When they heard his words, the rest were immediately delighted. A fierce look revealed itself on their faces, it looked as if they were itching for a massacre.

“Ai...”

While Song Dao’s faction was preparing to make move out, within the forest nearby, a figure rested against a tree trunk as he softly sighed.

“It is the Blood Wolf Gang after all...:”

Lin Dong kneaded his forehead. Previously, he noticed that one of the fellows had a Blood Wolf Gang emblem on his clothes. However, he never expected that he would hear such a shocking piece of news after eavesdropping.

“Thousand Gold Association, Big sister Su...”

As he lightly spread out his hands, Lin Dong cocked his head as he glanced at those guys to his rear. Their gazes were cold as their figures quietly floated into the forest.

“Seems like I’ll have to step in after all...”

As the human figure disappeared, that soft fleeting noise quietly faded.

Chapter 162: Soul Treasure

When Lin Dong's figure appeared forest to their rear, before steadily landing on Little Flame's back, old man Tao and the rest merely looked at him once, and did not inquire about what he was doing there. After Lin Dong defeated Lin Chen, he had clearly displayed his strength. Therefore, even Lin Chen and the rest did not dare to provoke him.

“Old man Tao, those guys are too much. How can we just leave like this!” When Lin Dong rejoined the team, Lin Chen was evidently still upset over the clash with these guys, as he opened his mouth and said.

As members of Lin Clan, they usually took on the role of the bully. Therefore, if it was not for the fact that old man Tao had insisted on leaving, they would have probably started a fight just now.

“Those fellows are pretty skilled. If we fought, perhaps we might win. However, we will likely have to pay a hefty price.” Old man Tao shook his head and said: “Right now, our top priority is to rush to the old tomb. Once the other elite practitioners from the clan arrive, we can deal with them anytime.”

The tone of old man Tao's words contained a hint of anger as well. Evidently, he was also upset with the group from before.

“At that time, we will not so easily let them off!” Lin Chen gritted his teeth as he declared.

Lin Ke-er, who was standing to one side, blinked her beautiful eyes as a chill flowed in the depths of her pupils. Then, she suddenly turned her head, looked towards Lin Dong and smiled: “Those guys will receive their just desserts, right?”

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong was taken aback. He declined to comment as he replied: “Perhaps.”

Lin Ke-er smiled knowingly and she did not ask any further.

The rest of the journey was not lonely. Even though they had gradually advanced deep into the Sky Flame Mountain Range, Lin Dong and the rest still met other groups that were also venturing forth. Most of these groups were not weak. However, though most of them were similarly wary of other groups, they were thankfully not as reckless as the first group of guys. Thus, since Lin Dong’s group also looked pretty formidable, they had a relatively peaceful trip.

Besides these other teams, Lin Dong’s group hardly met any of the most ferocious local Demonic Beasts in Sky Flame Mountain Range. It seems like old man Tao had really prepared thoroughly, as he had brought some unique medicinal powders along, which were able to repel some ordinary Demonic Beasts. As for the stronger beasts, from a distance away, Lin Ke-er was able to spot them and allow the group to avoid them by taking a detour. Therefore, their trip was surprisingly smooth.

On the few rare occasions where they met with Demonic Beasts,

they were not much of a hindrance.

As they hurried along, Lin Dong discovered that Lin Ke-er was actually a Symbol Master too. Though he did not see her utilise any Mental Energy attacks, based on his senses, this women's strength was certainly not weak at all.

One day's worth of time was mostly passed hurrying along the road. Until nightfall began to enshroud this massive Sky Flame Mountain Range, did Lin Dong and his party decided to rest and stop. After all, night time was when Demonic Beasts roamed free and hence, it was unwise for them to continue on.

After they set up camp, Lin Dong, old man Tao and the rest discussed some matters briefly, before they all returned to their respective tents and started cultivating.

Gentle moonlight poured down from the horizon, as it cast a layer of silver silk on this mountain range. From time to time, low growls of Demonic Beasts sounded out.

In the quiet campsite, a tent gently shook. A man and a beast turned into two shadows, as they stealthily dashed forth. In the blink of an eye, they disappeared into the woods.

When they entered the woods, Lin Dong looked once at that empty camp site behind him, as he softly heaved a sigh of relief. Then, he patted Little Flame's head while the latter was also sensible enough not to growl.

“Let’s go.” Lin Dong softly said. As he prepared to take off, his eyes suddenly concentrated as he abruptly turned around, only to see that standing on a tree branch behind him, was an elegant lady dressed in white smiling down at him.

“Lin Ke-er?” As he stared at the lady dressed in white, Lin Dong’s eyebrows furrowed slightly.

“You plan to look for those guys from today?” Lin Ke-er floated down before she softly chuckled: “Count me in as well, okay?”

Lin Dong was taken aback, before he said: “Why would you want to involve yourself in this?”

Song Dao and the rest were evidently no ordinary group. Furthermore, their murderous intent was something that was unmatched even by the Blood Wolf Gang. Hence, if this matter did not concern the Thousand Gold Association and Xuan Su, Lin Dong was truly hesitant to interfere as well. Thus, he never expected that this Lin Ke-er actually wanted to go on her own initiative...

“Don’t you know, women are the most vengeful creatures?” In response to Lin Dong’s question, Lin Ke-er answered in a baffled fashion, as she tilted her head and lightly smiled at Lin Dong.

“Is this because of that one sentence from that fellow....” The corners of Lin Dong’s lips twitched. Did all the women from these Great Clans have such a personality?

“Well, up to you.”

Even though he did not know if this was the correct answer, Lin Dong did not bother to continue inquiring. After he casually answered, he immediately jumped onto Little Flame’s back, before they transformed into a red shadow and dashed, lighting-quick into the woods.

“Swish!”

When Lin Dong moved, the sound of something cold breaking through the air was suddenly heard from behind him. As he turned to look, he saw Lin Ke-er stepping on a unique long-sword, that seemed to have been made from numerous ice shavings condensed together. The long sword faintly glowed in the darkness of the night, while, Lin Dong sensed a palpitating sensation from this unique long sword.

“What kind of sword is this... how can it be so powerful?” Lin Dong’s heart was fairly shocked. He could tell that Lin Ke-er’s Shattered Ice Sword was no ordinary item. In comparison, his Mysterious Ice Swords and Ever-Flame Sword were practically garbage.

“That is Soul Treasure. Ai, kid, you are really too ignorant. It’s no wonder, since you were being constructed in such a small place, what could you possibly know...” While Lin Dong was shocked, the small marten’s voice suddenly echoed out in his mind.

“Soul Treasure? What is that?” After hearing these words, Lin

Dong was stunned as he asked.

“Simply put, an item that possess its own soul is called a Soul Treasure. This type of item can only be crafted by a Soul Symbol Master. Therefore, in your Great Yan Empire, this Soul Treasure is considered as an extremely rare item.” The small marten casually answered.

“It takes a Soul Symbol Master to forge it...” Shock flitted across Lin Dong’s eyes. This meant that even grandmaster Yan did not possess the power to craft this so-called Soul Treasure. It was wonder he had not even heard about these Soul Treasures in Yan City.

“As expected of someone from the great clans...” Lin Dong a little enviously looked at the Shattered Ice Sword hovering below Lin Ke-er’s foot. This was the major advantage of belonging to a great clan. Even these treasures that they have never heard of, could be casually brought along. In the darkness of the night, the manner in which the latter floated forth, seemed as graceful as a fairy.

“You should know their location, right?” Lin Ke-er chuckled as she said.

“Yes, after clashing with them today, I left a Mental Energy mark on their knives.” Lin Dong nodded his head. Then, watching as Lin Ke-er lifted her eyebrows, he could not help but ask in a strange manner: “You left one too?”

“I’ve said it before, women are vengeful creatures.” Lin Ke-er

sweetly smiled as she said.

Lin Dong rolled his eyes. It seems like this woman had already planned to make a move on these guys. In contrast to her demure and beautiful looks, no one could tell that her methods were actually this vicious.

As he withdrew his gaze from the Shattered Ice Sword, Lin Dong's palm patted the tiger's back, and Little Flame's speed increased violently. Just like a fiery red shadow, in a few leaps, they disappeared deep within the woods. Right behind them, Lin Ke-er was still leisurely following. Based on her appearance, it seemed like it did not require much Mental Energy for her to manipulate the mystical Shattered Ice Sword.

Two humans and one beast swiftly traversed across the woods. Approximately ten minutes later, their speed slowly began to decrease. Both of their Mental Energy was fairly strong, and hence they were keenly aware of their surroundings. In fact, almost simultaneously, they both discovered that there were some Yuan Power undulations and faint sounds of battle a distance ahead of them.

“Have they already started...”

When he heard these sounds of battle, Lin Dong's pupils shrunk slightly.

...

Currently, in the middle of this small mountain valley, bonfires burned, as hundred of figures were in the midst of a chaotic clash. Sounds of battle and blades clashing rang out, as a thick bloody smell spread forth. In the darkness of the night, it was exceedingly pungent.

“Song Dao, my Thousand Gold Association has no grudges with your Blade Slaughter Gang, why must you ally with the Blood Wolf Gang and make things difficult for us!”

Xia Wanjin’s expression was dark. As he used a palm to jolt back a Blood Wolf Gang member who recklessly charged at him, his eyes turned to look at an imposing man, who was fighting in the middle of the battlefield. This man was Song Dao, whom Lin Dong had encountered during the day!

“Since I have accepted their money, I am obliged to rid them of their troubles. Surely Chairman Xia must understand this principle?” When he heard Xia Wanjin’s words, Song Dao could not help but chuckled as he turned his hand and his blade flashed forth, carrying two streams of blood. He licked the blood stain on his face, smiling as he replied.

“Whatever the Blood Wolf Gang is paying you, my Thousand Gold Association will double it!” Xia Wanjin deeply echoed.

“Haha, Xia Wanjin. The reward that I am offering Sect Leader Song Dao is that after we exterminate your Thousand Gold Association, we will give half of the resources to the Blade Slaughter Gang. Can you afford this price?” When he heard Xia Wanjin’s words, Yue Shan could not help but laugh manically.

“If you plan to devour my Thousand Gold Association, I’ll kill you!” Xia Wanjin’s face was ice-cold as he icily replied.

“You don’t have to worry about that. Kill them all!” Yue Shan sinisterly smiled, as he waved his hand. Promptly, several elites from the Blood Wolf Gang dashed forth like tigers and wolves, red in their eyes, as they madly attacked the Thousand Gold Associations’ troops.

As the Blood Wolf Gang and the Blade Slaughter Gang went all out, the pressure faced by the Thousand Gold Association instantly multiplied. As time went by, numerous individuals from both factions were killed, as their numbers drastically fell.

“Xuansu, protect Zhilan and escape. I will cover you!” When he saw the tragic losses suffered by his Thousand Gold Association, Xia Wanjin’s eyes reddened as he growled.

Behind him, Xuansu’s beautiful face changed slightly, as a desperate expression filled her eyes. Based on the current situation, their Thousand Gold Association was definitely at a major disadvantage. Since their opponent had two perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners, based on this fact alone, it was already enough to completely destroy them. Therefore, if they did not leave now, they would definitely face certain death.

“Leave! If you guys are captured by them, you will suffer a fate worse than death!” When he saw Xuansu hesitate, Xia Wanjin once again shouted out angrily.

Xuansu bit into her rosy lips, as she abruptly nodded her head. As she turned to grab onto Xia Zhilan, she fought to escape the crowd.

“You want to leave? Haha, Manager Su, my Blade Slaughter Gang’s brothers have long admired your beauty. How can we let such a beautiful lady leave?”

When he saw that Xuansu was planning to retreat, Song Dao, who was waiting for an opportunity suddenly laughed out heartily. He waved his huge hand: “Brothers from the Blade Slaughter Gang, capture her!”

“Haha!”

When he heard Song Dao’s laughter, the Blade Slaughter Gang members’ eyes reddened immediately. They released a beast-like growl from their mouths, and in a flash, they charged towards the Xuansu and Zhilan like a tidal wave.

As they stared at that massive incoming force, Xuansu’s beautiful face changed. Promptly, her palm hit on Xia Zhilan’s back, as she delivered a soft force to push her away: “Zhilan, run!”

“Bastard!”

When he saw this sight, Xia Wanjin was furious. His perfect Yuan Dan stage aura violently gushed forth. However, just he planned to make a move, Yue Shan’s figure swept forward and firmly blocked

the former.

“Haha, Xia Wanjin, today is the day your Thousand Gold Association will be thoroughly exterminated!”

When Yue Shan intervened to obstruct Xia Wanjin, Song Dao also laughed out. In a flash, he appeared somewhere to the front of Xuansu and the rest. He stared at that woman’s figure, which only seemed to grow even more alluring amidst the reflection of the lustful fire in his eyes.

When she saw that Song Dao had personally stepped in, Xuansu’s pretty face was cold as ice. Meanwhile, a trace of despair surfaced in her heart.

“Manager Su, there is nothing to miss about the Thousand Gold Association. Why don’t you join my Blade Slaughter Gang. I, Song Dao, will personally welcome you!” Song Dao stared at Xuan Su, as he smiled and said.

Xuan Su’s beautiful face was ice-cold. As she clenched her lily-white hand, a long sword appeared within.

When he saw this, Song Dao felt somewhat helpless. Spreading out his hands, he instructed: “Capture her, but remember, do not hurt his beauty.”

“Yes!”

When they heard Song Dao's instructions, the troops from Blade Slaughter Gang immediately laughed in a lewd manner before they answered. Then, they somewhat orderly spread out and surrounded Xuansu and the rest.

“Attack!”

When one man roared out, the troops from Blade Butcher Sect almost simultaneously rushed in. At the same time, Yuan Power undulations exploded forth.

“Kill!”

When she saw this sight, Xuansu bit her teeth, as she coldly shouted out. At this juncture, besides a fight to the death, there was no other option left.

“Growl!”

However, just as Xuansu was prepared to fight to the death with the Blade Slaughter Gang, a low beast growl suddenly rang out from within the forest. Promptly, a fiery-red shadow dashed into the scene. A red tail whizzed through the air, like a steel whip, as it directly decimated several Blade Slaughter Gang members nearby.

This sudden development caused the Blade Slaughter Gang members to panic, while a formidable cold glint burst out of Song Dao's eyes. He stared at that giant Fire Python Tiger that had appeared, as his eyes turned to look at that figure seated on the

tiger's back: "It's you?"

"Lin Dong?!"

Xuansu was similarly shocked by the arrival of this reinforcements. As she turned to look at that young man seated on the tiger's back, a look of joy immediately exploded forth in her beautiful eyes.

However, this delight immediately dissipated when she realized that Lin Dong was alone. Instead, her heart turned even more ice-cold and anxious. After all, based on the current situation, with just Lin Dong alone... he was surely courting death!

After all, Song Dao was a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner that could match up against Yue Shan!

Chapter 163: Manifestation Symbol Array, Third Layer

“Kid, I was kind enough to spare you. Don’t mistake my kindness for weakness!” Song Dao’s eyes were cold as he glared at Lin Dong and slowly said.

As he spoke, Song Dao’s eyes began to systematically sweep across the surrounding woods. During the day, he had found out the extent of the of Lin Dong’s and his party’s abilities. If they chose to intervene at this juncture, it would be hard to say how the current situation would change.

“Haha, sect leader Song Dao, why must you be so merciless? Why not we end today’s matter at this point.” Lin Dong smiled as his palm gently stroked Little Flame’s fiery-red fur. Right now, Little Flame’s mouth was wide-open, and its massive body was slightly bent forward, ready to attack. A menacing aura slowly spread out from its body.

“Who do you think you are? How dare you obstruct my Blade Slaughter Gang?” Beside Song Dao, that advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner, who had stopped Lin Ke-er earlier that day, could not help but sneer as he said.

“Kid, if you leave now, I can pretend that this has not happened!” Song Dao stared right at Lin Dong as he solemnly warned.

“Lin Dong, quickly leave with Zhilan!” Behind Lin Dong, Xuansu hurriedly said. With the Blade Slaughter Gang and the Blood Wolf

Gang working together, their combined prowess was truly formidable. Based on Lin Dong's current strength, how could he expect to stop them.

Lin Dong gently shook his head. His eyes were similarly locked onto that menacing Song Dao. Even though the Blade Slaughter Gang was powerful, the only man that he feared was Song Dao. As long as he could defeat Song Dao, he would be able to successfully resolve today's issue.

“Since you refuse the easy way out!”

When he saw that Lin Dong still had no intention to retreat, a ferocious glint surfaced in Song Dao's eyes. Promptly, he waved his hand violently as he coldly shouted: “Kill him!”

“Kill this son of a b*tch!”

Upon hearing these words, the troops from the Blade Slaughter Gang began to smile maliciously as Yuan Power exploded forth from their bodies. In a flash, the sharp blades in their hands hacked towards Lin Dong with a cold light.

As he faced these incoming troops from the Blade Slaughter Gang, Lin Dong did not bother with them. His eyes were solely focused on Song Dao. Just as these troops were several meters away from him, from within the forest, a violent wind sound suddenly erupted forth, as numerous twinkling cold lights burst forth.

“Plop plop!”

This sudden attack caused the Blade Slaughter Gang troops to panic, as the blades in their hands hastily danced. Meanwhile, Yuan Power was urged out from their bodies to form defensive barriers. Nonetheless, these tiny cold lights directly melted through their sharp blades, before finally bursting out from the throats of a few unfortunate fellows.

In that short instance, a dozen elite Blade Slaughter Gang members had died thanks to those glowing cold lights.

When that dazzling cold lights emerged from their throats, it carried along a column of blood. Finally, as they gathered in mid-air, they transformed into a dazzling Shattered Ice Sword. Immediately, an alluring white figure floated forth from within the woods and gently landed on that Shattered Ice Sword. Her beautiful face was smiling as she stared at the ravaged Blade Slaughter Gang’s troops below.

“As expected of a Soul Treasure...”

When he saw that the Shattered Ice Sword had instantly taken the lives of a dozen elite practitioners, Lin Dong’s heart slightly shuddered. That Shattered Ice Sword was evidently able to transform into Shattered Ice pieces to attack at any time. Furthermore, it was exceedingly formidable. When facing these ice pieces, the steel blades in those fellow’s hands were just like tofu. Even with Yuan Power as a defensive barrier, they were unable to stop it.

Based on Lin Dong's prediction, just this Shattered Ice Sword alone was enough to allow Lin Ke-er's strength to increase by thirty percent. The power of a Soul Treasure was truly incredible.

"You dare kill my Blade Slaughter Gang members. Good, very good!" Song Dao stared daggers at Lin Ke-er, who stood atop her Shattered Ice Sword, as he icily said.

"Blade Slaughter Gang? I have never heard of it."

Lin Ke-er lightly smiled, before she turned to Lin Dong and lifted her eyebrows, and said: "Are you sure that you can handle him?"

"If you want, you can have him." Lin Dong chuckled as he said.

"This kind of tiresome chore is best left to the men. Leave the rest to me and your big tiger." Lin Ke-er somewhat deviously said. She naturally knew that this Song Dao was a tricky opponent.

"Lin Dong, I will fight Song Dao together with you!" When she heard that Lin Dong was planning to face off against Song Dao by himself, Xuansu's facial expression slightly changed. The latter was a true-blue perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner. Even though Lin Dong's Mental Energy was extremely formidable, it would be a disaster to clash against Song Dao directly."

"Big sister Su, just let me handle it." Lin Dong shook his head. Based on Xuansu's current strength, she was evidently no match

for Song Dao. If she intervened, she would instead distract Lin Dong as he tried to protect her.

“You... are you sure?” When she saw Lin Dong insist, Xuansu’s eyebrows furrowed as she anxiously said.

Lin Dong chuckled. Without answering, he slowly stepped forward. His path was directly headed towards Song Dao.

“Such an ignorant brat!”

When he saw Lin Dong approaching him, a malevolent glint surfaced in Song Dao’s eyes.

“Sect leader Song Dao, that kid is with the Thousand Gold Association. Kill him too!” The commotion on this side naturally drew Yue Shan’s attention, while he dueled intensely with Xia Wanjin. However, when the former realized that there were only two of them, a murderous intent surfaced in his heart as he shouted out.

Song Dao lightly nodded his head, as his eyes fell on Lin Dong: “Since you are such a fool, don’t blame me for being merciless!”

“Boom!”

As Song Dao’s threat fell, an exceedingly formidable Yuan Power violently gushed out from within his body. A white Yuan power, just like a giant ball of white flames, surrounded his body, as a

formidable pressure began to spread forth.

Yuan Power churning, Song Dao's foot stomped on the ground, as his figure immediately blurred. In a flash, he appeared in front of Lin Dong. His palm to chop towards Lin Dong, as a formidable Pure Yuangang energy swiftly materialized. It directly tore through the air and viciously went for Lin Dong's throat.

“Pure Yuan Finger!”

When Song Dao attacked, a dark golden Yuan Power similarly gushed out from Lin Dong's body. Straightening two of his fingers, Pure Yuangang energy swiftly gathered at his fingertips, before they actually formed into a solid cone and quickly thrust towards Song Dao's palm attack.

“Bang!”

As palm and finger collided, terrifying Yuan Power abruptly rippled outwards. The dried leaves on the ground were directly turned to dust.

“Humph, merely advanced Yuan Dan stage, yet you dare to challenge me. You're courting death!”

Song Dao's expression was dark, as his powerful palm attack directly decimated the Yuan Power at the tips of Lin Dong's fingers. Just as he planned to carry on his attack, Lin Dong retreated in a extremely cunning fashion. Meanwhile, as he

retreated, both of his hands began to form a series of hand-seals.

As his hand-seals changed, a dark golden Yuan Power gushed forth from within his body just like a tidal wave, before they swiftly gathered at his palm.

Wonder Gate Seal, fourth layer!

Lin Dong was keenly aware of how powerful a perfect Yuan Dan practitioner was. In terms of Yuan Power potency or endurance, Song Dao was stronger than him. Therefore, when he attacked, the martial arts that he used, were not of low rank.

When Lin Dong's final seal ended, a dark golden Yuan Power had already swiftly condensed into a dark golden glowing seal several feet large in between his palms.

This time, the Yuan Power undulations hidden inside this dark golden glowing seal was several times stronger compared to his previous clash with Lin Chen. Furthermore, this was the first time Lin Dong had utilized his most powerful martial arts after reaching to the advanced Yuan Dan stage!

“Swish!”

After the dark golden glowing seal took shape, Lin Dong's arms jerked forward as the glowing seal directly flew forth. It left a dazzling dark golden light trail, as it viciously shot towards Song Dao.

As that light seal pounced towards him with an exceedingly powerful force Song Dao's pupils slightly shrunk. He never imagined that Lin Dong could actually utilize such a powerful martial art using his advanced Yuan Dan stage abilities.

“Five Tiger Splitting Palm!”

Even though he was shocked, Song Dao was not the slightest bit merciful. White Yuan Power frantically gathered on his right palm, as a knife shape faintly appeared. Furthermore, on that knife shape, there seemed to be the outline of a tiger.

“Kid, I shall take your life with this move!”

When that knife shape appeared, Song Dao's face turned even more malicious. He stepped forward, as his right palm furiously smashed down on that dark golden glowing seal!

“Boom!”

The blade shadow that was formed from powerful Yuan Power heavily hacked down on the dark golden glowing seal. Immediately, an exceedingly formidable Yuan Power shock wave frantically emerged, like a storm that swept away everything. In fact, even the ground was forcefully split apart, as countless cracks began to emerge.

“Break!”

A maniacal yet formidable knife gushed forth. Song Dao's face was cold as he ruthlessly swung his right palm, watching as that dark golden glowing seal was forcefully hacked apart by him.

Nearby, when Xuansu and the rest witnessed this scene, they immediately turned pale.

“Kid, you are finished!”

After gaining the upper hand with a single move, a cold expression surfaced on Song Dao's face. With a ‘swish’ sound, he hacked at Lin Dong's throat like lightning.

“Buzz buzz!”

As he faced Song Dao's lethal attack, Lin Dong did not lose his calm. As his hand-seal changed, numerous Mental Energy threads hidden within that ruptured glowing seal shot out. These threads crisscrossed and interacted with each other, as they quickly formed a mysterious symbol array in front of Lin Dong.

“Manifestation Symbol Array, Manifest, Thousand Flames!”

When the symbol array was complete, Lin Dong stared at Song Dao, who was merely inches away, as the corners of Lin Dong's lips curled up to form an ice-cold smile.

The Manifestation Symbol Array was split into three layers: Manifest Light, Manifest Azure Wave and finally the most powerful move Manifest Thousand Flames. In the past, Lin Dong did not have the ability to unleash the third move. However, now that he had reached the advanced Yuan Dan Stage, he was finally able to display the full potential of this Secret Spirit Skill!

Chapter 164: Seizing by Force

The mysterious symbol array suddenly began to whirl rapidly after Lin Dong's command. As it spun, an exceedingly powerful Mental Energy undulation abruptly spread forth.

“Hua hua!”

As the symbol array vibrated, a powerful Mental Energy began to gather at its center. Furthermore, as Mental Energy frantically continued to accumulate, at the heart of that symbol array, a peculiar flame suddenly sprung forth.

This flame seemed like an ordinary flame. However, strictly speaking, this was not actually fire... but, something made from Mental Energy, after reaching a certain level of compression.

This flame was merely the size of a thumb. However, the berserk Mental Energy vibrations emitted from it, caused even Lin Dong to be slightly shocked. He never expected that the full extent of the Manifest Symbol Array was actually this formidable.

This undulation was also detected by that incoming Song Dao. Immediately, shock flashed in his eyes. However, it was no longer possible for him to retreat. Hence, he could only hurriedly mobilize the Yuan Power in his Dantian into the glowing blade shadow in his hand, and attempt to use this to resist the attack.

“Swish!”

Lin Dong's eyes coldly stared at Song Dao, before his fingers suddenly jabbed forward. The seeming flame-like object inside symbol array suddenly trembled, with a 'swish' sound, it exploded forth!

“Boom!”

As the flame swept forward, the surrounding air suddenly shook, as an invisible wave of air screeched forth, pressuring the surrounding air and generating low sonic booms. The aura of this attack was extremely terrifying.

Song Dao was similarly shocked by Lin Dong's dreadful strike. It was now that he finally discovered that, what this young man was most proficient in, was not Yuan Power, but rather Mental Energy attacks!

At this critical juncture, there was already no way out. Song Dao was indeed the leader of these maniacal outlaws. Immediately, a dark expression surfaced in his eyes as the glowing blade in his hand suddenly brightened, before he desperately hacked downwards, furiously chopping down on that tiny flame!

“Bang!”

When that glowing blade chopped onto that tiny flame, a loud explosion immediately echoed out. However, that seeming formidable glowing blade was almost instantaneously decimated by that flame. Meanwhile, without a decrease in velocity, that

flame continued to dash towards Song Dao, while emitting berserk undulations!

When he saw the flame easily crushing his glowing blade, Song Dao's limbs instantly began to turn cold. As he turned to look at that young man behind him, he realized that at this moment, the latter was still calm as usual. There was no hint of any pride or arrogance that he was able to push a perfect Yuan Dan practitioner to death's doors.

“I have kicked an iron board...”

At this juncture, this thought flashed across Song Dao's mind. Nonetheless, this fearsome individual did not intend to give up, as his eyes flashed with a mix of madness and determination.

While madness gushed in his eyes, Song Dao's opened his mouth, as a pigeon egg-sized white Yuan Dan suddenly flew out from his mouth.

“Boom!”

When his Yuan Dan appeared, it was as if a Yuan Power tornado had formed on the spot. Even amidst the fearsome battle, several people were forcefully drawn to look.

However, when these people saw that Song Dao had actually spat out his Yuan Dan, a look of shock surfaced on their faces. Especially the Blade Slaughter Gang members, who were even

more shocked.

Everyone knew that the Yuan Dan was the most important object for one on the path of cultivation. This was the root of one's cultivation. Regardless of the severity of a surface wound, there was always the chance of recovery. However, if one's Yuan Dan was damaged, the possible after-effect was that one will very likely become completely invalid!

Therefore, unless it was truly a life and death situation, no Yuan Dan stage practitioner would ever rashly summon his Yuan Dan...

Due to this reason, when they saw this sight unravel before of their eyes, huge waves immediately churned in their hearts. Especially Yue Shan, who felt like his skull was practically about to explode. He could not believe that just Lin Dong alone, would be able to force Song Dao, whose strength was on par with his own, to such an extent!

“Boom!”

Under the disbelieving gazes of the crowd, the Yuan Dan which brought a Yuan Power tornado instantly screamed. Quickly, it crashed with a loud bang against that tiny flame!

At the moment of impact, all the fighting noises in this mountain valley seemed to have weakened. Space seemed to have turned silent. In the next moment, a volcano eruption-esque shockwave exploded forth!

“Bang!”

Lin Dong's figure was the first to be blown away by that terrifying shock wave. He heavily collided against a large tree with a muffled thud, clearly injured by this impact.

When he landed on the ground, Lin Dong's eyes turned to look at the epicenter of the collision, only to see that there was a deep hole there several meters in length at that spot. A look of awe flashed across his eyes.

Around the hole, several unlucky fellows were groaning. Based on their appearances, they were clearly affected by the aftershock.

“Bang!”

Lin Dong was prepared, thus, the injuries he suffered were not too severe. However, Song Dao was most unfortunate, as he was the closest one to the epicentre. Hence, when that shockwave hit his body, his face instantly turned pale as he immediately vomited out a mouthful of fresh blood. Meanwhile, his body flew backwards, like a kite whose strings had been cut, before he landed hideously on the floor and spat out multiple mouthfuls of blood.

After enduring such punishment, Song Dao's body was evidently severely injured. However, at this moment, he chose to endure the intense pain, as his palm hurriedly waved, and a dimly glowing Yuan Dan shot out from the dust filled air. After all, a practitioner could afford to lose a limb, yet, he must never lose his Yuan Dan!

After that massive collision, even though it successfully managed to stop Lin Dong's deadly attack, the Yuan Dan had become much dimmer. Evidently, it had suffered some injuries as well. However, at this moment, Song Dao could not be bothered about this matter. First preserving his life now, was the most critical.

The Yuan Dan drew a faint line of light through the air as it flew quickly towards Song Dao. However, right before the Yuan Dan returned to Song Dao's mouth, an exceedingly blurry glowing shadow suddenly appeared mysteriously. As its claw-like figure reached out, it quickly grabbed the Yuan Dan that was about to fall into Song Dao's mouth.

When his Yuan Dan was being grabbed, Song Dao's facial expression changed drastically, as he used every ounce of energy within him to help his Yuan Dan break free of that glowing shadow's grasp.

“Buzz buzz”

However, the now heavily injured Song Dao was obviously unable to recall it instantly. Especially when a black hole like object appeared on the claw, and his Yuan Dan was immediately swallowed.

When his Yuan Dan was swallowed by that black hole, Song Dao's facial expression turned inhumanely miserable, as he violently vomited numerous mouthfuls of fresh blood. At this moment, he had completely lost contact with his Yuan Dan!

With his Yuan Dan lost, an exceedingly feeble sensation burst out from his body. His originally vigorous and abundant energy quickly left his body. When he felt this sense of weakness, Song Dao knew that this time, he was finished...

“Leave! Leave now! Where is Song Que?”

The fear of death grasped Song Dao’s heart, as he grabbed at the few experts from the Blade Slaughter Gang nearby, and coarsely shouted out.

When they saw that the head of the Blade Slaughter Gang had been reduced to such a state, his followers were appalled.

“Big brother Song Que has been killed by that woman...” When he heard Song Dao’s enquiry, one of the Blade Slaughter Gang members immediately scowled as he answered fearfully.

“What?”

When he heard these words, the originally feeble Song Dao almost blacked out. As he lifted his head, he saw an elegant lady dressed in white sweetly smiling in mid-air as she fired off a dozen cold lights. Every time these cold lights swept down, they would leave behind a pillar of blood.

“Growl!”

At another area, a fiery-red beast was now manically hunting

every expert from the Blade Slaughter Gang. Every time that red shadow moved, another figure would be forcefully split apart.

This was a completely one-sided massacre!

After massacring who knows how many opponents, their Blade Slaughter Gang had finally tasted this same sensation.

“Go!”

Using his final bit of energy, Song Dao fled for the woods. He knew that this time, not only was he finished, but his entire Blade Slaughter Gang would be buried in this Sky Fire Mountain Range.

When they saw Song Dao flee, the rest of the Blade Slaughter Gang members lost all courage to resist, as they swiftly scattered. As for the Blood Wolf Gang, right now, they had their hands full...

As he watched the Blade Slaughter Gang flee, Lin Dong furrowed his eyebrows. Just as he planned to hunt them down, a blurry glowing shadow suddenly appeared and hopped onto his palm.

“No need to chase, that fellow is finished.”

When he heard the small marten’s voice, Lin Dong was stunned. Then, he suddenly realized that there was something else inside his hand. He tilted his head to look, and his pupils suddenly contracted when he realized that lying within his palm, was a pigeon egg-sized Yuan Dan!

“Song Dao’s Yuan Dan!”

When he saw this familiar Yuan Dan, Lin Dong immediately gasped deeply, before quickly he kept it into his Qiankun bag. With his Yuan Dan lost, Song Dao would probably not leave Sky Fire Mountain Range alive.

“Not bad, you actually managed to defeat that fellow...” An alluring figure flashed, as Lin Ke-er stood atop that Shattered Ice Sword and slowly floated before Lin Dong. Contained within her beautiful azure eyes, was a hint of shock. She had never expected that Lin Dong was actually able to defeat Song Dao...

Of course, the only one feeling shocked and astonished was not her alone. Xuansu, who was standing aside, had her lily-white hands over her mouth. The astonishment on her pretty face was completely unconcealable.

Alone, Lin Dong had defeated a perfect Yuan Dan elite practitioner!

Beside Xuansu, Xia Zhilan strangely stared at Lin Dong. She clearly remembered that barely half a year ago, Lin Dong was still being driven into a corner by Wei Tong. However, right now... he could actually defeat a perfect Yuan Dan practitioner!

What kind of cultivation speed was this?

Only now did Xia Zhilan completely understand why Xuansu and Xia Wanjin both valued Lin Dong so highly. It turned out that this fellow... was simply a monster!

With regards to their amazed glazes, Lin Dong chose to smile in response. He was clearly aware that if small marten had not employed a peculiar method to steal Song Dao's Yuan Dan, the latter would probably be able to retreat successful. As for his injuries, perhaps after a period of recuperation, he would be able to fully recover.

However, now.... that fellow was finished.

Lin Dong's palm gently felt the Qiankun bag in his sleeves. Then, his eyes turned to look at the extremely ashen-faced Yue Shan, as he smiled and said.

“Sect leader Yue Shan, do you still wish to kill me now?”

Chapter 165: The End to the Night

Within the mountain valley, the chaotic scene dissipated as the Blade Slaughter Gang fled in defeat, and the situation gradually became clearer. Although quite a number from the Thousand Gold Association had been killed or injured in the intense battle before, the Blood Wolf Gang had likewise sustained substantial losses. Most importantly, in the wake of the Blade Slaughter Gang's crushing defeat, the troops of the Blood Wolf Gang were so alarmed that they lost their morale. Their previously advantageous situation had practically vanished off the face of the earth in an instant.

Yue Shan was a person who was very able in assessing the situation. When Song Dao escaped in defeat, he already knew that, the situation where they were originally going to successfully dispose of the Thousand Gold Association, had already been thoroughly destroyed by Lin Dong's appearance.

Having lost the aid of the Blade Slaughter Gang, the Blood Wolf Gang was no longer able to deal with the Thousand Gold Association with just their strength alone. Furthermore, Lin Dong and the rest were like tigers eyeing their prey as they watched from the side...

Yue Shan had seen some of the previous exchange between Lin Dong and Song Dao. Truth be told, a trace of fear had now surfaced in his heart because of this youngster, who was not even twenty years old. Song Dao was as powerful as Yue Shan, and since Lin Dong was able to force Song Dao to such a terrible state, he would likewise be able to do the same to Yue Shan.

If this was before, Yue Shan would likely snort disdainfully at this kind of outcome. When he first met Lin Dong, though he was a little astonished at the latter's capabilities, he did not really think too much about it. An individual who had yet to reach even the Yuan Dan stage, would be easily squashed under his thumb.

However, the following events that transpired caused Yue Shan to gradually take notice of Lin Dong. This was because his rate of growth had already surpassed the boundaries of Yue Shan's imagination. Even if he was prepared for it, when Yue Shan suddenly saw Lin Dong directly defeat Song Dao, his heart could not help but tremble a little.

Now, the youngster Yue Shan had initially scoffed at, had already grown till he became someone who could go toe to toe with Yue Shan...

The bonfires burned as the light from the fire shone on Yue Shan's face, revealing his complicated expression. Around him, the Blood Wolf Gang troops tightly drew close. Their previous ferociousness had already completely faded, as they nervously stared at the bloodied troops from the Thousand Gold Association to their front. If Yue Shan had not spoken, they would likely have fled like the Blade Slaughter Gang.

"If I knew, I would have killed you at the Celestial Dan Pool!" Yue Shan's face slightly trembled as he stared unwaveringly at Lin Dong, while his hoarse voice sounded out.

“Many thanks for your compliments.”

Lin Dong chuckled as his eyes swept over the troops from the Blood Wolf Gang, his eyebrows slightly furrowing. The men Yue Shan had brought were clearly the elite of the Blood Wolf Gang. They were a rather strong force, and from the looks of it, Yue Shan also did not seem to be injured.

A perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner at one hundred percent might not be difficult to beat, but would be rather problematic to kill.

“This time, my Blood Wolf Gang admits defeat.” Yue Shan deeply inhaled a breath of air. At this time, no matter how unwilling he was, he still needed to give up. With the power he currently had, it might still be enough to allow them all to retreat, but if this dragged on, they would perhaps be buried in this place.

“Yue Shan, when I return, my Thousand Gold Association will have its revenge!” Xia Wanjin coldly stared at Yue Shan. He could tell that if Lin Dong had not suddenly appeared this time, his Thousand Gold Association would truly be destroyed. This grudge and debt was truly enormous.

Anyone could imagine that when Xia Wanjin and the rest returned to Yan City, they would definitely gather all their power to deal a fatal blow to the Blood Wolf Gang.

Yue Shan’s face twitched a few times, as he felt Xia Wanjin’s chilling gaze. Pursing his lips, he promptly retorted in a cold voice:

“So be it! I will accompany you till the end.”

However, though his mouth said these words, Yue Shan’s heart shivered a little. From Xia Wanjin’s gaze, he knew that in future, the Thousand Gold Association would go all out against him. Faced with the humongous financial resources of the Thousand Gold Association, he could foresee that the Blood Wolf Gang would likely have a crisis on their hands.

This was consequences of failing to completely exterminate Xia Wanjin here.

If the plan this time succeeded, they would have easily defeated the Thousand Gold Association, but, if it failed, the Blood Wolf Gang would face the Thousand Gold Association’s frantic counter-attack.

“Go!”

Yue Shan’s expression was rather ugly, but, he did not dare to stay any longer. Under the protection of the Blood Wolf Gang elites, Yue Shan ferociously glared at Lin Dong, as they swiftly withdrew into the forest, before borrowing the cover of the night to make their speedy escape.

As they watched the Blood Wolf Gang withdraw, the troops from the Thousand Gold Association also completely relaxed. Quite a few of them fell to the ground on the spot, the huge battle tonight was really desperate.

“You are letting him go like this?” Lin Ke-er cast a glance in the direction Yue Shan and the rest had fled in, before she smiled at Lin Dong and said.

“If he desperately escapes, we will also be unable to stop him, furthermore, most of their strength is still intact. The Thousand Gold Association in their current state will be unable to endure a desperate counter-attack from them.” Lin Dong shook his head as he explained.

“You are also not chasing that Song Dao from before?” Lin Ke-er’s umber-black eyebrows knitted together as she asked.

“My heart is willing, but my body does not have the strength.” Lin Dong casually made up an excuse. He could not possibly tell Lin Ke-er that he had already obtained Song Dao’s Yuan Dan right? After all, no matter what, taking another’s Yuan Dan was considered an extremely ruthless method. It would not be good if word of this got out.

“I’d be a fool to believe you.” Lin Ke-er rolled her eyes at Lin Dong. She could see that, although Lin Dong had not come out unscathed from this big battle, compared to Song Dao, the former was far better off.

Lin Dong chuckled and did not speak any further. After joining hands against an enemy this time, he was now somewhat fearful of this elegant woman. Even though he mostly feared the unusual Shattered Ice Sword beneath her feet, her methods also caused Lin Dong to not dare to underestimate her.

While he was fighting with Song Dao previously, many members of the Blade Slaughter Gang had their lives mercilessly taken away by Lin Ke-er. Among them, there were even the two practitioners who had reached the advanced Yuan Dan stage. In particular, the corpse of the man, that had insulted her in the day, was riddled with wounds. Evidently, he had been tormented quite extremely before his death.

This woman's heart was completely different from her elegant looks. Lin Dong did not plan to antagonize a troublesome woman like this.

“My young friend Lin Dong, this time, it's all thanks to you.”

While Lin Dong was talking to Lin Ke-er, Xia Wanjin walked over, wearing a gloomy expression, as he forced a smile at Lin Dong. Although the Blood Wolf Gang had been repelled tonight, the Thousand Gold Association's losses were not small. If Lin Dong had arrived a little later, perhaps, even more would have died.

“Chairman Xia has no need for such words, I have received much care from big sister Su and the Thousand Gold Association in Yan City. It is only right for me to lend a hand.” Lin Dong understood Xia Wanjin's mood, as he clasped his hands towards the latter and said.

“This time, we originally planned to look for some treasures in that old tomb. Yet, it now looks like we have no choice but to return home.” To one side, Xuan Su softly said.

“Next, we will directly return to Yan City. This grudge will not end here.” Xia Wanjin also nodded his head as he gnashed his teeth and said.

“After the Blood Wolf Gang has fled this time, they will definitely be even more on guard. Over this period, I will likely be at the old tomb, as for my family, please take extra care of them, chairman Xia.” Lin Dong muttered. If the Blood Wolf Gang made a move while he was not with the Lin Family, a catastrophe might occur.

“Don’t worry, as long as my Thousand Gold Association exists in Yan City, I will definitely not let anything happen to the Lin Family!” Xia Wanjin declared in a solemn voice.

“Hehe, the Lin Family still has the Symbol Master Guild and the city governor watching over them, Yue Shan does not have the guts to offend these two great factions.” Xuan Su chuckled and said.

“Many thanks.”

Lin Dong clasped his hands together in thanks. The current Lin Family could be considered to have settled in Yan City, or else, he would be incapable of leaving at ease.

“Chairman Xia, big sister Su, rest and reorganize yourselves for a while before leaving. We still have a team at another place, so we will likely have to leave first.” Casting a glance at Lin Ke-er, who was seemingly bored as she stood atop her Shattered Ice Sword and

gazed at the sky, Lin Dong did not chat too much.

“Sure.”

Xia Wanjin looked at Lin Ke-er, before his gaze concentrated on the Shattered Ice Sword beneath the latter's feet, as a serious look flitted across his eyes. As the head of the Thousand Gold Association, he naturally had a rather discerning eye. With one look, he knew what the Shattered Ice Sword under Lin Ke-er's feet was. This kind of treasure was not one any ordinary faction would possess.

“Goodbye.”

Lin Dong nodded and with a wave of his hand, Little Flame pounced over while reeking of blood. The tip of his foot tapped off the ground and landed on the tiger's back. After waving to Xia Wanjin and the rest, Little Flame transformed into a fiery shadow as it dashed into the forest. Behind it, Lin Ke-er was light as a feather as she closely followed while atop her Shattered Ice Sword.

For Lin Dong, stepping in this time was to return some of the friendship the Thousand Gold Association had shown him in the past. Most importantly, he had actually obtained a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner's Yuan Dan, if this was made use of appropriately, it would result in the greatest impact!

Thus, he had obtained quite a haul this time.

As he watched Lin Dong's and Lin Ke-er's figures fade into the night, Xia Wanjin sighed deeply as he slowly said: "It has only been a short two or three months, to think that Lin Dong had actually grown to such a stage. With his current strength, perhaps even I will be unable to beat him."

When they recalled Song Dao's sorry figure, Xuansu, Xia Zhilan and the rest also lightly nodded their heads in agreement.

"This fellow, every time we meet, he will have become much stronger. However, this time, it is really all thanks to him..." Xuansu softly chuckled as she said.

"Agreed."

Xia Wanjin nodded his head, soon after, he smiled and said: "Initially, I had slightly doubted the importance you placed in Lin Dong. Heh, now, it looks like I was the shortsighted one. What this guy achieves in future will definitely be out of our expectations."

Gradually withdrawing his gaze, Xia Wanjin looked at the almost reorganized troops, as he waved his hand. A cold murderous intent suddenly surfaced on his face.

"Go, return to Yan City. We will thoroughly cleanse Yan City of the Blood Wolf Gang!"

Chapter 166: Lin Langtian

When Lin Dong and Lin Ke-er quietly returned to the camp, it was still tranquil like before. The bonfire slowly danced, compared to the chaos previously, it was practically two different worlds.

After returning to the camp, the duo exchanged a glance before stealthily intending to return to their respective tents.

“Cough.”

However, just as the two planned to return to their tents, a tiny cough sounded out, startling the duo. As they turned their heads, they saw old man Tao lifting his tent opening as he helplessly gazed at the two.

“Eh...old man Tao has yet to sleep at such a late hour?” Lin Dong let out a hollow laugh, and to one side, Lin Ke-er’s eyes also turned in their sockets, as if preparing an excuse.

“You two little brats, completely refusing to be peaceful...” Old man Tao helplessly shook his head. From his tone, he seemed to know what Lin Dong and Lin Ke-er had went to do.

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong could only once again let out a hollow laugh.

“Forget it, go back and rest.” At this time, old man Tao could no longer say anything about this, and could only wave his hand.

Seeing this, Lin Dong swiftly slipped into his tent.

“You went to deal with that group right...” Upon seeing Lin Dong slip into his tent, old man Tao walked towards Lin Ke-er and softly sighed as he said: “I really never expected that Lin Dong would actually be able to defeat even a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner. Looks like he held back quite a bit in the duel with Lin Chen before.”

In response, even the proud Lin Ke-er lightly nodded her head. Her beautiful eyes glanced at Lin Dong’s tent as she said: “He is indeed very powerful, even among the younger generation of the Lin Clan, he would be top ten. In the Lin Clan gathering two years later, Lin Dong will definitely make his mark.”

“That old chap Lin Zhentian is truly fortunate to have such a grandson at his age..” Old man Tao sighed, from his words, one could tell that he was rather envious of Lin Zhentian.

“Alright, you should also go and rest, we still need to hurry on our journey tomorrow morning.”

“Yes.”

.....

Early the next morning, while the mountains were still shrouded in mist, Lin Dong and the rest once again set out. From Lin Chen’s and the rest’s appearances, it was clear that they did know Lin

Dong and Lin Ke-er had already secretly participated in an intense battle the night before.

After another half a day of travelling, the mountain range became much quieter, while old man Tao's and the rest's expression turned increasingly serious. They had already reached the deeper parts of Sky Flame Mountain Range, the Demonic Beasts that run amuck here was all very formidable. A little carelessness might draw a group of Demonic Beasts, at that time, even they would have to turn to flee.

Fortunately, there was Lin Ke-er to lead the way. She seemed to be exceedingly sensitive towards the auras of these Demonic Beasts. If they were about to encounter any beasts, she would sense it beforehand, and lead the team as they very carefully took a detour. At times, even Lin Dong could not help but admire this woman, because even he would sometimes find it very difficult to discover these Demonic Beasts which were extremely talented at concealment...

The groups deep in the mountains were already very few. Lin Dong and his party had rushed for half a day, and had only found one other group. After all, it was no simple matter to pass through the obstruction of numerous Demonic Beasts to arrive here.

Of course, although Lin Ke-er had keen senses, there were always exceptions. Thus, on their journey, Lin Dong and the rest had also encountered a single Demonic Beast attack. It was from Demonic Beasts which had the strength of an advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner. Initially, the team was a little panicked by the attack, however, they quickly steadied themselves. Though an advanced

Yuan Dan stage Demonic Beast was not weak, it was very hard for it to pose a fatal threat to Lin Dong and his group.

Therefore, after a battle that was not considered intense, Three Demonic Beasts were dead, and their Demonic Crystals were immediately gulped down by Little Flame, which could be considered a huge compensation.

After experiencing this attack, the team became more cautious. Luckily, another attack did not occur. When it was about afternoon time, Lin Dong and his party finally passed through the forest and appeared on the fringe of a huge mountain peak.

The mountain peak did not have sharp point, lush vegetation spread out from the mountain, and one could faintly make out traces of an ancient building, made of huge rocks, concealed among the vegetation at the top of the mountain.

“Is that where the old tomb is located...” As he gazed at the mountain top, excitement flitted across Lin Dong’s eyes as he asked.

“Yes.”

Old man Tao chuckled as he nodded his head, sighing a little before speaking: “However, the seal exists on the mountain top, hence, entering would not be easy. A Nirvana stage practitioner’s work is indeed very refined. After so many years, the seal is still so powerful.”

Lin Dong nodded in agreement, based on his Mental Energy perception, he was able to sense an unusual undulation in the skies around the mountain top, which should be due to the seal.

“Let’s go to the foot of the mountain first. I’m afraid that there are already quite a few people waiting there.” Old man Tao chuckled.

Lin Dong’s eyes looked towards the foot of the mountain and sure enough, he saw many tents. He was inevitably somewhat surprised, he did not expect that there were already so many people who had arrived here first. There was truly nothing to say about the allure of this old tomb.

The party hastened their steps, ten minutes later, they appeared in the camp situated at the foot of the mountain. This camp was evidently formed by countless teams, after all, the deeper parts of the Sky Flame Mountain Range were very dangerous. At any time, formidable Demonic Beasts would charge out. Even a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner did not dare to set up camp by himself. Thus, everyone set up camp together, if a strong Demonic Beast were to attack, they would be able to join hands and deal with it.

Although everyone were competitors, before they saw any treasures, they did not need to fall out with one another.

The appearance of Lin Dong and his party clearly drew the attention of quite a few people in the campsite. However, when they saw the clan emblem on Lin Ke-er’s and the rest’s chests, they fearfully withdrew their gazes. The Lin Clan was considered as a colossal existence in the Great Yan Empire, ordinary factions did

not have the guts to provoke them.

Thanks to the reputation of the Lin Clan, Lin Ke-er and the rest successfully entered the camping grounds. As they gazed at the bustling atmosphere within the camp, they could not help but be amazed. If it was before, no one would have imagined that such a market-like scene would appear in this extremely dangerous part of the Sky Flame Mountain Range.

“To think that the Wang Clan have also arrived.”

After entering the camp, the gazes of Lin Ke-er and the rest suddenly looked towards a high ground nearby. There were currently some people were watching them from that spot.

“The Wang Clan...”

Upon hearing this name, Lin Dong’s heart trembled a little. This Wang Clan was also part of the Great Yan Empire’s four great clans.

His eyes also looked over, only to see a group of young people standing on that piece of high ground. They were playfully staring back, and as Lin Dong’s gaze swept over them, it came to rest on a man at the center of the group.

The man wore yellow and seemed to give out a noble aura. His face was handsome and his aura was extraordinary. As he stood within the crowd, he seemed particularly prominent. And, what

caught Lin Dong's attention the most, was that he sensed a trace of Yuan Power undulations which did not lose to old man Tao, Yue Shan and the rest, from this man's body.

“Perfect Yuan Dan stage!”

A serious look swept across Lin Dong's eyes, these great clans were indeed extraordinary. This man's age was likely only around twenty five or six, yet, he had already reached this level. One could tell that even among the younger generation of the Wang Clan, this person was no ordinary character.

Plus, this was also the first time that Lin Dong had seen such a young perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner.

“I did not think that even Wang Pan had come this time...” As he gazed at that man in yellow, Lin Chen's eyebrows furrowed.

“Don't bother about them, let's set up our tents and rest.” Lin Ke-er casually said. Based on her tone, it seemed like she did not like these Wang Clan members.

The rest of them also nodded their heads, before they instructing for the tents to be set up.

“How many groups of people did the four great clans sent over this time?” Lin Dong approached Lin Ke-er and asked.

“For groups similar to our own, only the Wang Clan sent over

their younger generation members, to take this as an experience. However, each of the four great clans will send over their true elite practitioners.” Lin Ke-er explained.

“Since this old tomb is so valuable, wouldn’t it be easier for the heads of these four great clans to directly intervene?”

“Do you think these people will make a move so lightly? Furthermore, if one of them intervenes, the other parties will surely stop them. At the end of the day, it will just be a waste of their time. According to my knowledge, the elite practitioners sent by our four great clans should be the finest younger generation members. Hehe, these guys are truly monsters. Even in the entire Great Yan Dynasty, they are considered as exceedingly dazzling existences.”

Lin Dong silently nodded his head. The four of them were indeed incredible geniuses. In fact, they represented the pinnacle of the younger generation members of the Great Yan Dynasty!

“Big brother Lin Langtian and the rest should arrive here by tomorrow. At that time, this seal will naturally be broken.” Lin Ke-er lifted her beautiful eyes, as she stared at the somewhat distorted sky, before she laughed and said.

Lin Dong was silent, as his eyes faintly shimmered. Tomorrow, he would finally meet that man...

It was a night without conversation in these ancient woods deep within the mountains. The fact that so many people were crowded

together provided some degree of comfort. Even though growls from wild beasts echoed out quite often during the night, overall, it was still relatively peaceful.

When dawn of the second day arrived, the camp ground became rowdy once again. However, most people today were very excited. Evidently, most of them knew that the seal would be forcefully broken today. Even though they had no chance to obtain the most precious item in the old tomb, any loot they obtained would make this trip worthwhile.

Lin Dong sat on a giant boulder, with both of his eyes shut. Below him, Lin Chen and the rest constantly looked up towards the skies, eager looks filling their eyes.

As they waited eagerly, time slowly flowed by. Just as the sun had reached the middle of the sky, from the distant horizon, the sound of wind suddenly rumbled forth.

Just as the sound of wind rang out, Lin Dong's eyes suddenly jugged open. He could feel that all the Yuan Power inside these lands were now faintly gravitating towards that direction.

“Lin! Lang! Tian!”

Lin Dong lifted his head to look at the northern part of the skies. There, he saw a red flash streaking through the skies like a shooting star, descending from the heavens...

Chapter 167: the Four Top Young Practitioners!

The red flash tore through the sky as it drew the Yuan Power from heaven and earth. That kind of aura was exceptionally terrifying.

When that red flash appeared on the edges of the horizon, everyone in the camp noticed it. Immediately, numerous gazes of amazement were cast towards it

“Ooh!”

Under the numerous curious gazes, the red flash broke through the skies at a ferocious speed. As the red flash approached, the crowd was shocked to discover that the red flash was actually an exceedingly handsome giant eagle that was colored entirely in crimson red.

That giant eagle's speed was extremely fast, its wings shook a few times as it appeared in the skies above bringing with it the roars of wind and thunder.

While the giant eagle was slowing down, the crowd's gazes immediately concentrated on the back of the eagle. Clothed in green with his hands behind his back and his long hair drifting in the wind, he appeared to be extremely free and at ease. A look which subdued many of the onlookers.

Atop the giant eagle, the man in green slightly tilted his head down as his calm as water gaze swept over the camp below. He then withdrew his gaze, because, there was nothing worthy of his attention in that place.

“Big brother Lin Langtian has arrived!”

As they gazed at the figure in green atop the giant eagle, Lin Chen and the rest immediately cried out joyfully, excitement in their eyes.

“So, he is Lin Langtian...”

Lin Dong’s eyes stared unblinkingly at the man in green, who stood atop the giant eagle while looking down at the land. From the latter’s gaze, Lin Dong could see how flatly the man viewed the people below, or perhaps, it might be a type of disregard.

Of course, with his strength, he did seem to possess this right.

Based on that figure alone, even Lin Dong could not help but admit that this Lin Langtian was indeed a rarely seen handsome man, and that kind of aura was also one of a kind.

“The eagle below his feet...” Lin Dong’s gaze was glued onto the figure in green, it was quite a while before his gaze slowly shifted to the crimson red giant eagle below. Immediately, his pupils shrunk.

“That was made by him using Yuan Power, and is not real. However, this giant eagle seemed to possess not only form, but also a little of a true eagle’s majesty. If I am not wrong, this guy is already at the Qi Creation stage of the three Creation stages!”

“Heh heh, reaching the Qi Creation stage at such an age. Lin Dong, this opponent of yours is abnormally powerful.” The little marten’s voice also sounded out in Lin Dong’s mind at this moment.

“Qi Creation stage!”

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong’s pupils abruptly shrunk. He very clearly understood what this level represented. Even in the entire Great Yan Empire, those of the Qi Creation stage were truly first class practitioners!

Lin Dong tightly pursed his lips, stubbornly staring at the figure in green, before his gaze slowly lowered. At that time when he had first become sensible, he had declared that one day, he would take back the dignity of his father, which had once been trampled on.

Perhaps, Lin Langtian had already long forgotten about the branch family member he had casually crippled during the clan gathering that year, but, Lin Dong would never dare to forget!

This memory had not weakened under the passage of time, instead, it was gradually branded deeply onto his soul. Thus, no matter how strong this opponent was, he would never give up!

Of course, at the moment, he still needed to firmly suppress the hatred in his heart, because he was still currently incapable of contending against this pride of the Lin Clan!

Lin Chen and the rest did not see Lin Dong's expression, their gazes were completely fixed on the sky. In the Lin Clan, Lin Langtian's influence had practically surpassed some of the clan elders. In the hearts of the younger generation like them, Lin Langtian was even more like a war god that would never lose in battle!

Under the brilliance of Lin Langtian, the rest of the Lin Clan younger generation members were dull and colorless.

“Haha, Lin Langtian, you've managed to beat me by one step!”

While the crowd was in awe of Lin Langtian's aura, a hearty thunder-like laughter suddenly rumbled from the horizon. They crowd watched as a golden ray streaked across the skies, while a formidable aura also rippled out.

This aura was filled with haughtiness, yet, in response to this kind of haughtiness, no one dared to be resentful against it.

The golden light broke through the skies, causing the Yuan Power to surge, as it finally came to float in the horizon, transforming into a huge golden spear that was a dozen meters long. Atop the spear stood a figure in gold with long hair that draped over his shoulders. A domineering aura soared into the skies, as if it was a unique wild spear which towered over the land.

The crowd stared at the figure in gold, which stood atop the huge golden spear, as envious looks were revealed on many of their faces. If one could look this mighty and impressive in one's life, one's bitter training would have paid off.

“Big brother Wang Yan is also here!”

Several from the Wang Clan stared at the figure atop the huge golden spear in the sky, as delight surfaced on their faces.

“To think that the one from the Wang Clan this time is actually Wang Yan.” Lin Ke-er and the rest watched the huge golden spear in the sky, slightly astonished as they said.

“Should it not be him?” Lin Dong was startled as he asked.

“There are two exceptional geniuses from the Wang Clan. One of them is Wang Yan, while the other is even stronger, Wang Yan's older brother, Wang Zhong. Even big brother Lin Langtian fears this person the most. Over the years, the two have fought several times, but have yet to determine the victor among them.” Lin Ke-er smiled and said.

“Wang Yan's strength should be at the Form Creation stage, a level below Lin Langtian. However, the huge golden spear below his feet is no ordinary item, it is probably a high-grade Soul Treasure. With the aid of such a Soul Treasure, he would be able to do battle even with a Qi Creation stage practitioner.” The small marten's voice sounded out in Lin Dong's mind.

“High grade Soul Treasure.”

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong’s eyes involuntarily twitched. He already knew that Soul Treasures were divided into three categories, and the Shattered Ice Sword in Lin Ke-er’s hands was a low-grade Soul Treasure. He did not expect that this Wang Yan was even more grand, directly stepping on a high-grade Soul Treasure. Even if the entire Yan City was excavated, a treasure like this would not be found.

“These people from the great clans are truly treated lavishly.” Lin Dong bitterly laughed in his heart. Since he was born, he had never even touched a low-grade Soul Treasure, while these people were actually able to possess one each.

“Haha, I did not expect that you would be the one to come this time...” In the skies, Lin Langtian’s gaze also swept over the huge golden spear below Wang Yan’s feet, before the former softly chuckled and said.

“Why? Do you look down on me?” Upon hearing this, Wang Yan’s eyebrows immediately raised as he laughed and said: “This time, my brother is at a critical juncture of his closed door cultivation. If he came, the treasures from the old tomb will all belong to my Wang Clan.”

“Haha, Wang Yan, I’ve not seen you for a year but your words are still as arrogant as before.”

Just as Wang Yan's laughter faded, yet another soft chuckle slowly sounded out from the horizon. Soon after, blue light filled the skies, as a rainbow flash swept over from the horizon. In the twinkling of an eye, it appeared in the skies above.

When the blue light filled the skies, the crowd swiftly cast their gazes over, only to find a mythical wind bird which was dozens of meters large, it flapped its wings as it floated in the skies. An extremely formidable aura swept forth from within the mythical wind bird's body.

A blue clothed man lightly smiled as he stood atop the mythical wind bird. His face was bewitchingly handsome, such that in terms of looks, even Lin Langtian was inferior. He held a deep blue fan in his hand, as he slowly fanned himself, while giving off a graceful aura of nobility.

“That is the genius from the Qin Clan, Qin Shi.”

After hearing Lin Ke-er's voice, Lin Dong once again silently nodded his head.

“Another fellow at the Form Creation stage, and that mythical wind bird of his also possesses the strength of the Form Creation stage. Tch tch, kid, don't be too discouraged today...”

Lin Dong rolled his eyes, not feeling discouraged like the little marten had said. Though these people were all of the younger generation, they were still several years older than him. He had the confidence that he would surpass these arrogant existences in the

future!

“Qin Shi, to think that an effeminate guy like you would also join in the fun here, heh, you’ve even bought your Qin Clan’s mythical wind bird, truly well prepared indeed...” Wang Yan chuckled as he shot a glance at Qin Shi.

“Didn’t you also bring your Wang Clan’s Great Luo Golden Spear. Brother Lin Langtian has already advanced to the Qi Creation stage, if you are not thoroughly prepared, you will likely be stuck picking up the leftovers.” Qin Shi waved the deep blue fan in his hand and slightly smiled.

The corner’s of Wang Yan’s mouth twitched as he turned to look towards the seal which enveloped the mountain top: “When are we going to break this seal?”

“No no need to worry, we still need to wait for one more person.” Lin Langtian casually smiled and said.

“Who are we waiting for? Didn’t the Huangpu Clan say they are not sending anyone?” Wang Yan was taken aback, his eyebrows furrowing as he asked.

“The Huangpu Clan is not planning to send anyone, but, they’ve invited an even more formidable person to come...” Lin Langtian chuckled and said.

“Oh? Who? In this Great Yan Empire, there should be few who

you would call formidable.” Upon hearing this, Wang Yan quickly turned a little curious.

“Hehe, brother Lin Langtian flatters Qingzhu. With the top younger generation members of the Great Yan Empire like you guys here, Qingzhu is afraid that it would be difficult to reap any rewards.”

As Wang Yan’s voice faded, a spirited voice suddenly sounded out across the skies. That voice was extremely melodious, and seemed to contain a special magic. Immediately, an intoxicated look appeared in the eyes of several people below.

“Such a formidable person!”

Lin Dong’s mind was likewise momentarily dazed when the spirited voice sounded out, however, he quickly regained his senses, as amazement filled his eyes. Hastily lifting his head, he saw a green light sweep across the skies from a distance away before finally transforming into a green lotus.

Atop the green lotus, was a wonderfully curved figure. Although a veil covered her face, those penetrating crystal-like pupils caused this area to momentarily dim...

Chapter 168: Breaking the Seal

The woman wore a light-colored silk dress, with eyebrows like jade feathers and flesh as white as snow. Her waist was gorgeously small while a veil covered her face, only revealing her clear eyes which seemed to flow like water as the world seemed to lose color before her beauty.

A woman like this, and with such a demeanor, was rarely seen in this world.

The noisy foot of the mountain lapsed into silence at this moment. Although the woman's face was covered with a veil, the faintly discernable silhouette of her face appeared almost perfectly proportioned, causing one to wish that he could rip off that veil, and see the beauty that would make a hundred flowers look dull.

“Such a beautiful woman!”

Lin Dong stared at the woman dressed in light colors, her bare lily-white feet stepping on the green lotus, and could not help but softly gasp in his heart. Among all the woman he had seen, Xuansu was considered the most graceful, but before this mysterious woman, even she fell short.

However, though this woman's voice was melodious and lively, Lin Dong did not see even the slightest bit of gentleness in those limpid crystal-like eyes. Instead, contained within was a deep cold that could repel someone a thousand miles.

This woman was evidently one that was hot on the outside but cold on the inside!

This kind of woman was even more difficult to deal with than those woman with ice-cold exteriors.

“Who is this woman? Someone from the Huangpu Clan?” Lin Dong tilted his head and looked towards Lin Ke-er as he softly asked.

“No...:”

Lin Ke-er’s umber-black eyebrows slightly knitted together as she heard these words, a little suspicion in her eyes. Even she could not help but feel a sliver of jealousy in her heart at this woman’s looks and demeanor.

“This woman does not appear to have an ordinary background, as it was the Huangpu Clan which invited her this time. Her name seems to be Ling Qingzhu, and as for exactly where she hails from, it is not something someone of my position is able to know.” To one side, old man Tao interrupted and said.

“To be able to cause a figure like Lin Langtian to be so courteous, this woman definitely does not have an ordinary identity.” Lin Dong lightly nodded his head as he muttered in his heart.

“Hehe, so it turns out to be miss Qingzhu, Qin Shi greets you.” In the skies, Qin Shi also gave faint smile to the woman whose lily-

white feet stepped atop the green lotus. From the looks of it, he seemed to know a little of the latter's identity.

“Heh heh, I did not expect that you would also be interested in things from my Great Yan Empire.” Wang Yan looked towards the mysterious woman, an undisguised passion in his gaze. In front of such a beautiful woman, any man would be moved, and he merely decided not to conceal it.

“It's nothing more than coincidence.”

Ling Qingzhi gently smiled as she said. Soon after, her eyes turned towards Lin Langtian as she softly said: “Since everyone is already here, shall we start to break the seal?”

“Haha, sure.” Lin Langtian gently nodded his head. The gaze he looked at Ling Qingzhi with was likewise a little different, however, it was not totally unrestrained like Wang Yan's.

“The seal was set up by a Nirvana stage practitioner, although many years have passed since then, its might is still considerable, but, as long as all of us attack a single point, destroying it would not be difficult.”

Upon hearing Lin Langtian's words, Wang Yan and the other two nodded their heads.

“Less useless talk, let's do it!” Wang Yan was the quickest to move, the sole of his foot stamped on the huge golden spear below

him as the spear started to tremble violently. Resplendent golden rays swiftly gathered at the tip of the spear, before it finally transformed directly into an enormous golden spear made of light, that was dozens of meters long, as it violently swept forth.

“Boom boom!”

The spear flashed forward, while emitting a series of low explosion sounds. Its power was astonishing.

“Hua hua!”

While Wang Yan made his move, Qin Shi, who stood atop the mystical wind bird, also lightly smiled as he gently waved the deep blue fan in his hand. Immediately, a blue wave rapidly formed before him, as Yuan Power surged within it.

“Go!”

Qin Shi waved his fan as the blue wave crashed forward like a huge wave that seemed to stretch across the skies.

“Buzz buzz!”

Both hands behind his back, Lin Langtian did not seem to move as a huge vortex appeared in the skies above his head. Terrifying Yuan Power seemed to rush out from the heavens and in the blink of an eye, it transformed into a huge fiery-red broadsword. Red light flashed, as it tore apart the skies and screamed forth like a

meteor.

Compared the Lin Langtian and the other two's attacks, Ling Qingzhu's attack seemed rather serene. She waved her hand as a petal dropped off from the green lotus below her feet. Soon after, the petal was bundled up in a rich green light as it noiselessly swept towards the mountain top covered by the seal in a distance.

When the four made their move, the Yuan Power in the area violently undulated, while the faces of several people in the camp was filled with admiration. Only those that had reached the Creation stage would be able to utilise Yuan Power to such a godly extent.

“Will one be able to utilise Yuan Power to this level after advancing to the Creation stage...”

Lin Dong deeply sucked in a breath of air. The power to gather Yuan Power give it any shape with a gesture was truly mind-blowing.

In the face of this kind of power, even Lin Dong was held in rapt attention. Although the current him was already able to defeat a perfect Yuan Dan stage expert, towards a practitioner at the Creation stage, his power was still rather insignificant. To overtake these top tier younger generation members of the Great Yan Empire, he still had some ways to go.

However, he believed that the day would come when he would definitely surpass these people at the top!

While Lin Dong's eyes were flickering, the majestic attacks in the sky had already heavily slammed into the mountain top under numerous watchful gazes.

As these attacks neared, the sky seemed to distort. Almost instantaneously, a screen of light slowly appeared, numerous lines and patterns were drawn on the light screen, as if they were a bunch of bizarre symbols.

“Boom boom!”

The first to reach was Wang Yan's golden spear of light, which gave off a proud aura. The exceptionally wild and formidable spear of light heavily slammed into a point on the light screen, causing circles to ripple outwards...

“Crash!”

The wave formed by valiant Yuan Power also quickly followed. Everything poured down onto that same point and immediately, the ripples on the light screen spread increasingly quicker, while the glow of the light screen also grew much dimmer.

“Boom!”

In the next moment, the scarlet red broadsword arrived in a blaze. It ruthlessly pierced the light screen, and then, at an extremely slow speed, it slowly buried itself into the light screen.

“Burst!”

In the skies, Lin Langtian’s mouth slightly moved as a soft voice sounded out.

“Boom!”

As Lin Langtian’s voice sounded out, the tip of the scarlet red broadsword, which had already pierced into the light screen, immediately let out a huge noise as it transformed into an exceptionally berserk Yuan Power. The Yuan Power frantically swept forward, completely wiping away the symbols on the light screen.

As the Yuan Power gradually scattered, the glow of the light screen also became exceptionally dim. However, it still firmly stood, a scene which caused quite a few people to inwardly smack their lips. They did not expect that after experiencing the ferocious attacks of three Creation stage practitioners, the seal would still remain so strong.

“Swish!”

While everyone was in admiration over the strength of the seal, the final and seemingly weakest green glow was as light as a feather as it drifted over. Soon after, lotus flower petal landed on the light screen.

The moment the lotus flower petal touched the light screen, it instantly transformed into a thick green light and spread outwards, as it enshrouded the entire light screen.

“Ka cha ka cha!”

The green light trembled as a series of soft but clear breaking sounds echoed out. The crowd watched as cracks unexpectedly appeared on the light screen.

“The seal is about to be broken!”

Upon seeing this scene, many people were delighted. Some of them looked towards the mysterious woman in astonishment, clearly unable to believe that she actually possessed this kind of method, and unsure of which holy land she came from.

“Hehe, miss Qingzhu’s Heavenly Jade Lotus is indeed not ordinary...” Lin Langtian, Wang Yan and Qin Shi were similarly rather surprised, as they chuckled and remarked. Their gazes all looked towards the green lotus below Ling Qingzhu’s white feet.

“I was just lucky that it had a little subduing effect on the seal.” Ling Qingzhu gently said as she smiled.

“Bang!”

Just as Ling Qingzhu’s voice faded, the light screen, that was already covered all over in cracks, finally exploded with a ‘bang’

sound. An extremely powerful storm unfurled in the skies like a hurricane.

“Go!”

The hurricane did not manage to blow away the four figures in the sky. They watched and at the moment the light screen shattered, their figures simultaneously transformed into rainbow flashes that swept forth. In the blink of an eye, they were almost at the mountain top.

“The seal is open, quick, charge in!”

Upon seeing the four charge towards the old tomb, the crowd below were also madly delighted. Quickly, Yuan Power whistled in the air as figures filled with power transformed into glowing shadows and swiftly rushed towards the mountain top. For a time, sounds of wind rang out across the mountains.

“We should go too!”

As they saw this scene, Lin Ke-er and the rest also planned to leap into action. They glanced at the Wang Clan members, who were already charging towards the mountain top, before hastily trying to catch up.

“Little Flame, go!”

Lin Dong leapt onto Little Flame’s back, as a smiling expression

also surfaced in his eyes. Since he was already here, he could not possibly return empty handed. He was indeed interested to find out, exactly what kind of treasures were in this old tomb, that would cause even practitioners like Ling Langtian to be so impatient!

“Roar!”

Little Flame let out an intimidating roar towards the skies, which shocked the surrounding forests. Immediately, it transformed into a fiery-red shadow and swiftly dashed towards the mountain top, as if it were chasing the stars and the moon.

The battle for the old tomb had finally begun!

Chapter 169: Sudden Windfall

A commotion instantly exploded on the originally serene mountain top, as everyone rushed frantically towards the old tomb. However, since there were several Demonic Beasts inside these mountains, occasional screams of terrors were heard from time to time. Yet, overall, most of them managed to rush up to the mountain top within a few minutes.

Lin Dong did not rush in too quickly and chose to lag a little behind instead. Therefore, he managed to completely avoid all the Demonic Beasts along the way and safely reached the mountain top.

Once he ascended the mountain, a large stone wall that was hidden within the vegetation surfaced in front of his eyes. Currently, this extremely solid stone wall had already been forcefully smashed into debris. Based on the haughty spear aura that remained, it was very likely that this was the work of Wang Yan from Wang Clan. This man's strength was truly violent.

Outside the stone wall, endless streams of people were rushing in red eyed. They looked like perverts who had suppressed themselves for many years before finally seeing a naked beauty in front of their eyes. A scene which gave off a maniacal feeling.

Lin Dong's eyes swept across the entrance, however, he did not see Lin Ke-er and the rest. He guessed that they must have already dashed into the old tomb impatiently. Nonetheless, this situation was just what Lin Dong had yearned for. After all, he did not want to enter the old tomb with them, since they would only restrict his

movements.

Even though Lin Ke-er knew a little of his true strength, he had other secrets including Stone Talisman and the tiny marten to hide. It was best not to let others know about these matters as much as possible.

“Huff.”

As he softly exhaled, Lin Dong’s palm slapped against the tiger’s back. Little Flame roared, as it immediately leapt forth and jumped right through the entrance.

As it dashed in, a formidable pressure immediately surfaced. Even though that Nirvana stage practitioner had been dead for numerous years, his lingering aura still filled this area, causing the Yuan Power in one’s body to feel slightly sluggish.

“A Nirvana stage practitioner is truly frightening, he still possesses this level of power even in death. I can’t imagine just how terrifying he must be in his prime.”

As he felt this stifling pressure, a serious glint involuntarily flashed across Lin Dong’s eyes. He lifted his head, only to find a spacious giant hall with dozens of passages leading into the depths of the tomb. Currently, several people were dispersing into the different tunnels.

“Lin Dong, enter the fifth tunnel from the left!”

While Lin Dong was hesitating over which path to take, the small marten's voice suddenly echoed out inside his heart.

Upon hearing its words, Lin Dong was slightly taken aback. Without inquiring, he patted Little Flame, before they transformed into a red flash and dashed past several people before directly darting into the fifth tunnel from the left.

Even though there were numerous tunnels, there were even more people who had ventured in. Therefore, even after the separation due to the tunnels, Lin Dong still saw the figures of greedy-looking individuals hunting for treasure among the stone huts along the sides of the tunnel.

“Ignore them, move forward!”

When he heard the small marten's voice, Lin Dong immediately dashed forward along the path without wasting any time at these stone huts.

After travelling for several minutes at this frenzied pace, a glint flashed across Lin Dong's eyes. He patted Little Flame, causing the latter to quickly come to a halt, while his eyes turned towards a plain-looking stone hut in front of them. Inside it, he could sense an extremely powerful Yuan Power undulation.

“There must be something good inside!”

This kind of undulation was something that he had not felt from any of the previous stone huts. Immediately, Lin Dong's heart skipped a beat as he swiftly rushed forward. However, when his palm touched the stone door, he was violently deflected by a powerful force field.

“There is a force field here, however, it is not too powerful. There must be a mechanism behind the stone door. Use your Mental Energy to penetrate in and corrode it. It would require too much time to forcefully break through!” The small marten's voice sounded out once again. At a moment like this, having an experienced ally was highly effective.

Lin Dong nodded his head. With a flick of his mind, Mental Energy gushed forth as it formed threads, which surrounded the stone door, before they rapidly merged with the door. Moments later, the stone door started to tremble violently, and to Lin Dong's delight, it slowly opened with a thud.

When that stone door opened, Lin Dong immediately stepped in. A blinding flash immediately attacked his eyes, causing him to squint. At this moment, he realized that the interior of the stone hut was covered with a type of cold jade, allowing a weak cold Qi to bathe the inside of the hut.

Of course, Lin Dong's eyes only swept once across these cold jade decorations. Promptly, his eyes moved to stare at the piles of round pills stacked on the ground.

These pills were the size of a baby's fist. Each and every one of them were glossy like jade, indicating that they were of excellent

quality. Moreover, an astonishing Yuan Power vibration emitted from within these pills.

“These are... Pure Yuan pills?”

Lin Dong foolishly stared at these pills which filled the entire room. Moments later, he could not help but violently suck in a breath of cold air. These things that were casually scattered around like beans was something that a Yuan Dan practitioner needed half a month to a month’s time to successfully condense!

The number of Pure Yuan pills inside this stone hut were at least in the tens of thousands. If they were converted to Yang Yuan pills, there would be millions of them!

Lin Dong recalled how he had painstakingly slogged to refine elixir pills, only to earn several tens of thousands of Yang Yuan pills. From this one could only imagine how shocked Lin Dong was in the face of such a windfall.

This was akin to a country bumpkin suddenly running into a mountain of gold. Furthermore, he could take as much as he wanted.

This shock only lasted for several minutes, before Lin Dong suddenly regained his wits. Without further ado, he immediately took out his Qiankun bag and spread out his Mental Energy. Under Lin Dong’s fevered gaze, all the Pure Yuan pills stacked in the room flew up and continuously flowed into his Qiankun Bag.

Tens of thousands of Pure Yuan pills. This gigantic sum was probably enough to buy even a low-grade Soul Treasure. The thought of encountering such a wonderful gift mere moments after entering the old tomb, caused the excitement inside Lin Dong's heart to overflow.

This trip was simply too awesome!

Lin Dong's gaze was fiery, as he concentrated on collecting all the Pure Yuan pills. To one side, Little Flame's huge tongue flicked out as it swallowed a big pile of Pure Yuan pills. In the past, Lin Dong would be pained at such a sight, however, now that he had encountered such a windfall, he was too lazy to even take notice of it.

“Pah pah!”

As there were simply too many Pure Yuan pills inside the stone hut, even with Lin Dong's Mental Energy, he only managed to collect half of them in several minutes. Just as he planned to collect the rest, his ears suddenly twitched as he heard soft footsteps.

When he heard the footsteps, Lin Dong's facial expression instantly darkened as he violently turned around, only to see that outside the stone door, stood four figures. However, right now, these four people were staring, with their mouths ajar, at the Pure Yuan pills that filled the stone hut. Moments later, their eyes turned red as greed gushed forth. Then, their eyes paused on Lin Dong, who was rapidly collecting all the Pure Yuan pills inside the stone hut.

“Kid, hand over all the Pure Yuan pills!”

The four of them were evidently in cahoots. They walked inside the stone hut, sealing off the entrance, before they maliciously smiled at Lin Dong. Under the temptation of these Yang Yuan pills, even if a Creation stage elite was present, they would not give up so easily.

People would die for money. This was a true saying indeed. Often times, greed would overwhelm one’s rationality.

Lin Dong’s expression did not change. Ever since the four of them had appeared, Lin Dong had sensed that among the four of them, two were at the initial Yuan Dan stage, while the other two were at the advanced Yuan Dan stage. Their combined powers made them a pretty formidable force, however, compared to him, they were still lacking.

“Small marten, Little Flame, I’ll leave them to you!” Lin Dong laughed as he said.

After Lin Dong’s words landed, the small marten’s figure immediately appeared on his shoulder. It rolled its eyes but did not object. Even though it had agreed to ally with Lin Dong during this trip to the old tomb, it still felt slightly upset that Lin Dong had asked it to take care of these weaklings

“Grow!”

The most obedient one was naturally little Flame. When it heard Lin Dong's command, it immediately opened up its huge mouth. Meanwhile, the python snake tail at its back hissed, before it directly charged forward, bringing with it a bloody wind. That ferocious aura caused the four's facial expressions to change, as they quickly utilized Yuan Power to welcome it. Evidently, they never expected Little Flame to be this formidable.

However, just as one of the initial Yuan Dan practitioners was preparing to use his Yuan Power, an extremely swift light flashed in his eyes. Immediately, he felt a sharp pain in his chest area. As he lowered his head to look, he found that a bloody hole had already appeared and fresh blood continuously gushed out.

As that light flashed past, the small marten hovered in mid-air while chuckling at the remaining trio, who were now deathly alarmed. With a wave of its claw, it once again dashed forth. Since it now had the perfect Yuan Dan stage strength, it could slaughter these guys easily.

The battle was settled surprisingly quick. With the small marten around, even Little Flame did not have to contribute much, before these four unlucky fellows fell to the ground.

When the last man fell, the final Pure Yuan pill inside the stone hut was also kept inside Lin Dong's Qiankun bag. With a wave of his hand, he grabbed the Qiankun bag and stuffed it inside his sleeves. Finally, a relieved smile flashed across his face.

Just as Lin Dong was planning to leave with all the Pure Yuan pills, a mess of footsteps echoed out from outside the entrance. Several people stood outside the door as they stared at the four lifeless body on the ground. Immediately, their hearts shivered as they fearfully stared at Lin Dong, who was inside the stone hut.

In response to their stares, Lin Dong was expressionless as he directly walked towards the stone door. Meanwhile, Little Flame followed closely behind while emitting a bloody smell. When they saw this man and beast approaching, even though many people suspected that the two had very likely taken away the treasure, because they were not fully certain, they did not want to take the risk and attack this duo. After all, there were four bodies on the floor clearly warning them that the duo before them were certainly no virtuous souls. Thus, when they saw Lin Dong approaching, the crowd hurriedly dispersed to allow him through.

Together with Little Flame, Lin Dong walked through the crowd at an extremely steady pace. His unhurried appearance shocked the crowds and cemented their decision not to attack him.

“That was dangerous...”

Just as he turned the corner, Lin Dong’s taunt expression instantly relaxed as he deeply heaved a sigh of relief. It was fortunate that he was able to quickly collect all these Pure Yuan pills. Else, if these fellows had seen them, they would surely turn crazy. At that time, he would be in real trouble. After all, even though his party was powerful, it was a pain for them to deal with too many people.

After he heaved a sigh of relief, LIn Dong hurriedly jumped onto Little Flame's back, as man and beast left at a frantic speed. Compared to his calm appearance from before, he seemed like an entirely different person.

Chapter 170: Ransacking the Demonic Spirit Chambers

“Twenty three thousand Pure Yuan pills!”

Inside the tunnel, when Lin Dong used his Mental Energy to scan his Qiankun bag, a dizzying blissful sensation immediately gushed forth from the bottom of his heart.

Twenty three thousand Pure Yuan pills; that was equivalent to two hundred and thirty thousand Yang Yuan pills!

Converted to Yang Yuan stones, that would be ... thirty three million. Even if the Lin Family completely exhausted their mining lode, one wonders if they would be able to procure such an amount. If the Blood Wolf Gang obtained such a massive fortune, their financial position would surely catch up with the Thousand Gold Association. That alone would be enough to reverse the pecking order between these two top Yan City factions. From these examples, one can see what these two hundred and thirty thousand Yang Yuan pills represented.

“Aih, what a country bumpkin. What can twenty thousand Pure Yuan Pills do? At most, you can buy a somewhat decent Soul Treasure or a top-tier martial arts manual.” While Lin Dong was elated over his gain, the small marten’s voice suddenly echoed out inside his heart.

With regards to this fellow who enjoyed bringing others down, Lin Dong was already used to it. Since he was currently elated, he

could not be bothered to argue. His eyes scanned the corridor, watching the figures frantically pass by, as he asked: “Now, how should we proceed?”

“Go left. Now that you have gained something, it’s time for me to benefit.” The small marten smiled, its voice betraying a hint of impatience. In the past, this so-called cave left by a Nirvana practitioner would be beneath its notice. However, now that it had descended from a phoenix to a chicken, it could only accept reality. After all, the most crucial thing currently was to restore its strength.

“No problem.”

Lin Dong agreed without hesitation. Right now, both them were on the same boat. Furthermore, after working together for sometime, they had developed some trust between them. Moreover, the bounty gained led both parties to understand that it would be most effective for them to work together.

After agreeing, Lin Dong immediately urged on Little Flame, as they turned and quickly dashed down a tunnel to their left.

Right now, most places inside this old tomb were flooded with people and in fact, it was quite chaotic. Based on their appearances, it seemed like most people had found some decent treasures. Naturally, due to the huge crowd here, it inadvertently led to jealousy and the ultimate result was that once a treasure was obtained, a brutal fight immediately exploded. As each party called their allies, fighting till they bled, a rather sorry outcome.

However, since this old tomb was extremely spacious, there were numerous complicated and intercrossing tunnels. The small marten seemed to possess an extraordinary gift for navigating these tunnels as it directly guided Lin Dong deeper in.

“At the end of this tunnel, I can sense an exceedingly intense Demonic Spirit undulation. However, don’t worry, these Demonic Spirits are all sealed. It should have been the handiwork of that Nirvana stage practitioner.” The fiery-red shadow ran within the tunnel, as the small marten explained to Lin Dong.

Lin Dong gently nodded his head. Moments later, he lifted his head to spot a stone door at the end of the tunnel. As he approached the stone door, he was shocked to discover that this was not an ordinary stone door. Instead, it was forged from a peculiar cold jade. Based on the door’s appearance, it seems like even that Nirvana stage practitioner had highly valued the items behind this door. At least, it seemed better than the previous room that Lin Dong had broken into.

“There is a seal on this jade door, and it seems pretty powerful...” Lin Dong’s footsteps stopped outside the jade door, as he glanced at the faintly visible symbols on the door and said.

“Yes, leave it to me.”

The small marten nodded its head, as it once again appeared on Lin Dong’s shoulders. Its claws swiftly danced, as a dark purple light swept out from its claws and stuck onto that jade door.

“Buzz buzz!”

That dark purple light seemed to possess an extremely powerful corrosive effect. As it came into contact with the jade door, those faintly visible symbols began to vibrate violently. Moments later, with a ‘ka-chak’ sound, all of them exploded.

“Rumble rumble!”

As the symbols split open, that tightly shut stone door also slowly began to open.

“Bang!”

Lin Dong slightly narrowed his eyes as he looked at the slowly opening stone door. As he took his first step in, an exceedingly powerful energy undulation immediately gushed forth from behind that stone door and forcefully jolted him back a few steps.

“Don’t panic. This place has been sealed for too long and some energy has accumulated.” The small marten laughed before it impatiently dashed in, while Lin Dong and Little Flame swiftly followed.

After they stepped inside, a pretty spacious stone chamber appeared before of Lin Dong’s eyes. The four walls of the stone chamber were filled with all sorts of mysterious symbols, and there were several light balls floating inside.

“These... they are all Demonic Spirits!”

As Lin Dong looked at the hundreds of light balls, astonishment slowly surfaced in his eyes. That was because he discovered that hidden inside each of these light balls was a sleeping Demonic Spirit!

“Haha!” When it saw all these sealed Demonic Spirits, the small marten could not help but let out a hearty laughter. Then, it turned towards and tapped on the wall, as the jade door once again slowly began to close. Immediately, it pointed at a protrusion on the wall that resembled a jade sphere: “Lin Dong, I will collect these Demonic Spirits. Help me prevent others from entering.”

“The seal on the jade door has already been broken by you. When too many people arrive, I am afraid I can’t hold out for long.” Lin Dong furrowed his eyebrows as he said.

“Don’t worry, once you pour Yuan Power in, you will be able to reactivate the seal. Try your best to hold on for a while!” The small marten waved its claw. Since it knew that time was of the essence, without further ado, its figure flashed as it jumped into the air. As its claws waved, a slowly spinning black hole began to surface on its palm. Once that black hole appeared, it immediately swallowed the Demonic Spirits.

After witnessing this situation, Lin Dong felt helpless and could only quietly obey, as he poured his Yuan Power into that jade ball. Then, the stone door once again slowly began rumble shut, as a

faint energy barrier resurfaced.

“Growl!”

While Lin Dong was preparing to defend, to one side, Little Flame suddenly growled deeply. Then, to the astonishment of Lin Dong, it dashed inside the stone room, opening its mouth to swallow one of the light balls containing a sealed Demonic Spirit.

“You stupid tiger, how dare you snatch this grandpa marten’s Demonic Spirits!” When the small marten saw Little Flame’s actions, its eyeballs almost popped out as it furiously said.

“Growl!”

Little Flame growled at the small marten and ignored it. Little Flame was quite intelligent as well, hence, it naturally knew consuming these Demonic Spirits would be extremely beneficial for it.

“Quit your yapping. There are so many Demonic Spirits here, are they not enough for you? Stop wasting time, once others rush in, all the Demonic Spirits here will be taken away!” When he saw the small marten in conflict with Little Flame over these Demonic Spirits, Lin Dong did not know whether to laugh or to cry as he intervened.

“God damnit, alright, I will let this stupid tiger win.” After hearing these words, the small marten cursed out in pain. Then,

ignoring Little Flame, it hurriedly collected all the Demonic Spirits. Right now, it had no time to refine them one by one. Therefore, it could only collect them first, before slowly refining them at a later time.

Thus, inside the spacious stone chamber, a marten and a tiger, were now collecting and swallowing all these sealed Demonic Spirits. To one side, Lin Dong could see that even though Little Flame was swallowing them one by one, it evidently did not refine them. Therefore, one wonders where all these swallowed Demonic Spirits had disappeared to...

“Booom!”

This pace continued for several minutes. Just as Lin Dong could not help but want to tell them to hurry up again, that tightly shut jade door suddenly shook violently.

“Someone is outside, they are attacking the jade door!”

This sudden change caused Lin Dong to panic as he hurriedly warned them, before hastily pouring more Yuan Power into the jade ball in order to defend against these intruders.

When it heard Lin Dong’s warning, the small marten was startled as it hurriedly increased its pace.

“Boom boom!”

The large noises outside the stone door became increasingly frantic. It seemed like quite a few people were attracted by this ongoing commotion. Under this kind of pressure, the Yuan Power inside Lin Dong's Yuan Dan continuously gushed forth like a tidal wave. At this rate, he would not hold out for long. Immediately, he gritted his teeth, and directly took out a Pure Yuan pill from his Qiankun bag before stuffing it into his mouth. Since he had obtained such a windfall, he did not mind this little expenditure.

The Pure Yuan pills obtained from the old tomb was extremely potent. Without much need for any further refining, it could be directly transformed to Yuan Power for use. Therefore, Lin Dong was barely managed to hang on through frantically gulping down Pure Yuan pills. However, based on his flushed face, his situation was not good.

“Damnit, are you guys done yet!?”

After persevering for several minutes, Lin Dong could not help but growl. Every vibration from that jade ball caused his arms to ache.

“It's done!”

The small marten once again waved its hand, as it sucked a light ball into its black hole. Then, it retrieved the black hole with its claw and said: “Let's head this way, we can directly exit here.”

After hearing these words, Lin Dong instantly felt a sense of relief. As he turned to run, he saw that there were still several light

balls inside the stone room.

“Heh heh, these are a present for those guys...” The small marten hovered near another stone door. After breaking the door with a single blow from its claw, it jabbed out with its claw as numerous dark purple light beams swept forth and heavily slammed onto these light balls.

“Bang!”

When that dark purple light beam hit these light balls, the seal on these light balls were instantly dissolved. Immediately, Lin Dong sensed the Demonic Spirits sealed within slowly awaken.

“Bang!”

Just as these Demonic Spirits awakened, that continuously shaking jade door suddenly exploded, as a mass of black heads rushed in like a tidal wave.

When he saw this scene, Lin Dong’s heart began to pity these fellows who had painstakingly broken in. Then, he deftly dashed through the door, Little Flame and the small marten swiftly following behind as that stone door began to rumble shut again. Nonetheless, Lin Dong could still faintly hear a few miserable cries from inside the room.

“That fellow is simply too cruel!”

When he heard these screams, Lin Dong could not help but let out a bitter laugh as he turned to look at the small marten on his shoulder. Not only had this fellow ransacked practically all the Demonic Spirits, it had also left a massive headache for those behind.

Chapter 171: The Six Soul Treasures

“Haha, this time we really had a great harvest!”

The small marten was seated on Lin Dong’s shoulder, a delighted glint in its eyes. This time, it had obtained a rather substantial number of Demonic Spirits. Furthermore, most of these Demonic Spirits were roughly the same grade as the ‘Demonic Jade Water Python’ from the Celestial Dan Pool. Hence, if it could refine all of them, perhaps, it would regain the strength of the Creation stage in a few days.

Even though this was still far from its peak, it was still much stronger than its current level.

As he saw the small marten’s delighted expression, Lin Dong rolled his eyes. He stared at the tunnel behind him, and found that there was no one who had managed to catch up. Evidently, the few awakened Demonic Spirits inside the stone chamber were causing them much trouble.

“That’s good too, having less people around will spell less troubles.”

Lin Dong chuckled at their misfortune. Even though the people behind would probably still pass through eventually, it would reduce their overall numbers for sure.

“Let’s go. Now, we can head to the main hall of this old tomb.” The small marten waved its hand as it laughed: “That is where the

real treasures are kept. However, we must be careful. The defenses there should be the strongest as well.”

Lin Dong nodded his head. Speaking of treasures, his heart could not help but begin to sizzle. As he passed through a tunnel, both himself and the small marten seemed to be like caterpillars molting. Not only did they manage to obtain all the Pure Yuan pills, they even obtained nearly all of the sealed Demonic Spirits as well.

Furthermore, he also understood that the items inside these tunnels, were not the true treasures of this old tomb...

“Let’s go!”

While he suppressed the fire inside his heart, Lin Dong patted Little Flame, as the latter immediately transformed into a red shadow and dashed forth. After it previously devoured a ton of Demonic Spirits, it had evidently benefited as well. Even though it had yet to refined those Demonic Spirits, its current state seemed to reached its peak.

A man and a beast once again began to travel rapidly forward. However, this time, they did not make any more pit stops. This was because the remaining stone rooms were largely abandoned, thus, they did not have any value left.

Hence, as they travelled at full speed, approximately ten minutes later, the seemingly never-ending tunnel finally began to widen, as a loud thud and a racket greeted them like a wave.

Lin Dong commanded Little Flame to reduce its speed as they slowly walked out of the tunnel. Outside the tunnel, was an extremely extensive hall, similar to a large stadium. Along the hall, were numerous different tunnels.

Right now, there were already several figures inside this large hall. Roughly speaking, there were probably more than a dozen of them. Amongst them, Lin Dong spotted Lin Ke-er and her party, as well as the group from the Wang Clan.

“Boom boom!”

However, right now, Lin Ke-er and the rest evidently did not notice Lin Dong’s arrival. All of the people in the area were directing waves of powerful attacks towards a glowing barrier hovering in the large hall. Their combined forces caused layers of ripples to continuously emerge on that glowing barrier.

Lin Dong’s eyes swept across that glowing barrier, before they stopped at the few glowing shadows dancing within. Through that faint glow, he could almost make out the glowing shadows which seemed to resemble blades, arrows, shields, etc...

“Soul Treasures!”

As he gazed at these glowing shadows, Lin Dong’s pupils shrunk as he sucked in a breath of cold air. These six glowing shadows were all Soul Treasures!

“Such a massive find!”

Lin Dong muttered to himself. In the whole Yan City, one could not find even a single Soul Treasure. However, at this moment and place, there were six Soul Treasures before him. Furthermore, amongst these six glowing shadows, the one that resembled a blade, was exceptionally resplendent. Based on its glow, even Lin Ke-er’s Shattered Ice Sword was no match for it. Hence, it must at least be a mid ranked Soul Treasure!

Just the value of one mid ranked Soul Treasure alone, could probably surpass all the Pure Yuan pills that Lin Dong had obtained!

“As expected of a Nirvana stage practitioner’s tomb!”

Lin Dong tried his best to suppress his rapidly beating heart. His eyes swept across the hall, and found that practically everyone was staring at these six Soul Treasures within the glowing barrier with hungry expressions. Right now, they were combining their forces to break the glowing barrier, before they started the fight for the Soul Treasures!

When that time arrived, in order to fight for these Soul Treasures, there would definitely be a huge and horrendous battle!

To obtain these Soul Treasures, it was worthwhile to put one’s life on the line!

A glint flashed across Lin Dong's eyes, as Yuan Power casually undulated on his hand, before he directed it towards that light barrier. At the same time, he quietly commanded Little Flame to slowly approach that light barrier.

Lin Dong's actions did not draw much attention, because, he was not the only one with such a plan. While the rest of them were attacking the light barrier, they purposely held back as well. Once that light barrier shatters, they would instantly make their move!

When Little Flame was right below that light barrier, it decided to stop. Meanwhile, a frenzied glint flashed across Lin Dong's eyes, as powerful Yuan Power gushed inside his channels just like a flood. Meanwhile, the Mental Energy inside his Niwan palace was also ready to deliver a strike.

Under the frenzied attacks of the crowd, the glowing barrier in mid-air began to dim. Based on its shaky appearance, it looked as if it was going to break at any time.

Upon witnessing this scene, the atmosphere in the large hall suddenly turned strange. At first, all of them were sticking closely together. However, now, all of them spread out simultaneously, as a vigilant look surfaced in their eyes.

Lin Dong also felt this peculiar atmosphere. However, he was not too surprised. Under the temptation of Soul Treasures, this was a normal situation.

“Lin Dong, when the scramble begins later, do not go for the blade shaped Soul Treasure. Do you see the one all the way to the right? Go for that instead!” While Lin Dong’s eyes were peeled on that glowing barrier, which was ready to crack at any moment, the small marten’s voice suddenly echoed out inside his mind.

“Why?”

After hearing these words, Lin Dong involuntarily asked. That blade-like Soul Treasure seemed to be the most powerful one. Why shouldn’t he go for it?

As they were conversing, Lin Dong’s eyes shifted to the right. That spot was slightly dim and a Soul Treasure that resembled a spear hovered there. It was black in color and fairly shoddy-looking, and most importantly, the glow emitted by that item was the weakest amongst the six. If one did not see that other items around it, one may not have realised that it was a Soul Treasure.

Hence, it was evidently the worst.

“Heh, such a bumpkin. Even though that blade shaped Soul Treasure is powerful, this other one does not lose out to it. In fact, this grandpa marten can tell that this Soul Treasure is only half complete. Humph, even though its half complete, its strength is already equal to that of mid ranked Soul Treasure. Once it’s fully completed, it may even match up against the Wang Clan’s golden spear!” The small marten disdainfully said.

“Half complete?” After hearing these words, Lin Dong was

slightly shocked. Moments later, he replied: “I do not know how to forge it. If I want to reforge it into a complete product, who knows how many donkey years it will take. I should just go for that blade shaped Soul Treasure.”

“Don’t worry. At that time, grandpa marten will teach you how to forge it. Quit your yapping and stop b*tching around. If you want to fight to death with the others over that blade shaped Soul Treasure, then go ahead!”

After hearing these words, Lin Dong was enlightened. Inside this large hall, there were probably several highly skilled individuals who are gunning for that blade shaped Soul Treasure. With so many people fighting for it, even with aid of his Mental Energy, he may not succeed.

Furthermore, he only had one opportunity. If he tried to go for multiple items, he would likely end up with nothing.

“Alright, I shall listen to you and fight for the last one!” His gaze flickered, as Lin Dong gritted his teeth and made his decision. After all, he had some faith in the small marten’s judgement, at the very least, he knew that it was much better than his own.

“Don’t worry, it won’t disappoint you!” Upon witnessing this situation, the small marten said in satisfaction.

While the man and marten were conversing, that glowing barrier in mid-air became increasingly dim. At the same time, everyone’s hearts became increasingly nervous. In fact, some of them had

even stealthily begun to unsheathe their weapons.

“Crack!”

Suddenly, a soft cracking sound emerged. At that moment, the large hall suddenly turned silent, as everyone’s eyes were tightly peeled on that crack, which was slowly emerging on the barrier.

“Crack crack!”

The size of that crack grew rapidly in the pupils of the crowd, before it eventually covered every corner of that glowing barrier.

“Bang!”

Crumble. Moments later, when the cracks finally extended to their limits, the barrier could no longer hold on, as it exploded, transforming into numerous glowing debris which fell from the sky.

“Boom!”

The moment that light barrier exploded, streams of Yuan Power almost simultaneously exploded forth in the quiet large hall, as everyone’s eyes turned blood-red immediately. They leaped into the air, greedy expressions surfacing in their eyes, as they reached for the exposed Soul Treasures in mid-air!

“Let’s go!”

The instant they made their move, Lin Dong’s toes tapped off Little Flame’s back as his body flew into the air. Just as he had expected, most of them were unable to suppress the greed in their hearts and went for the strongest looking, blade-like Soul Treasure. Meanwhile, the contenders for the five other Soul Treasures were evidently a lot less.

Upon witnessing this scene, Lin Dong chuckled in his heart. His body turned as he dashed towards the spear-like Soul Treasure that had the least contenders.

Since the small marten claimed that this unremarkable spear-like Soul Treasure was potentially the most powerful amongst the six, then no matter what, he must obtain it today!

With this thought in mind, Lin Dong cast a glance at the four other practitioners that were also dashing towards the spear-like Soul Treasure, as a cold glint surfaced in his eyes.

He would obtain this item for sure!

Chapter 172: The Scramble over the Treasure

All five figures had red-hot gazes, as they dashed in a straight line towards the spear shaped Soul Treasure, which was floating in the air,

Lin Dong's gaze swept over the other four before pausing on the left most middle-aged man. From the vigorous Yuan Power undulations that spread out from the latter's body, Lin Dong was able to tell that the middle-aged man's strength was at perfect Yuan Dan stage.

As for the remaining three, they were only at advanced Yuan Dan stage. Although this was not weak, they did not pose too much of a threat towards Lin Dong.

“So many experts!”

This was already the smallest group, yet, there was already one perfect Yuan Dan and three advanced Yuan Dan practitioners. This intense competition caused even Lin Dong's heart to involuntarily gasp.

However, Lin Dong was not the slightest bit lenient as he made his move. Though Yuan Dan stage practitioners were almost able to float through the air, they were far from able to directly create various shapes and objects using Yuan Power like Lin Langtian and the rest. Thus, although they were in mid-air, their nimbleness could not compare to Lin Dong, who had the aid of Mental Energy.

The sword below his feet flashed as Lin Dong's figure once again sped up. In an instant, he approached the spear shaped Soul Treasure, which was emitting a weak glow.

“Kid, you're courting death!”

The four people behind were furious when they saw that Lin Dong was the first to reach. As they lifted their hands, four portions of ferocious Yuan Power gushed out and ruthlessly shot towards Lin Dong's back.

“Humph!”

As he sensed the strong wind which was rushing at his back, Lin Dong coldly snorted. With a flick of his mind, vigorous Mental Energy formed into a Mental Energy barrier behind him, and blocked the incoming Yuan Power attacks.

“Swish!”

While resisting their combined attack, Lin Dong's finger pointed out as four swords emerged from his Qiankun bag. Formidable sword auras violently shot towards the four people behind him, indiscriminately hacking and chopping, causing the four to become somewhat flustered. After all, they did not have much means to move in mid-air, causing them to look a little clumsy.

While the four were busy, Lin Dong neared the spear shaped Soul

Treasure, before his hand directly grabbed at it.

“Buzz!”

Just as Lin Dong’s palm was about to touch the spear shaped Soul Treasure, an extremely powerful resistive force suddenly exploded out from it, forcibly jerking away Lin Dong’s palm.

“Boom!”

Upon seeing that this spear shaped Soul Treasure was automatically resisting, Lin Dong was a little taken aback. As expected of a Soul Treasure, to think that it also possessed this kind of ability.

“Boom!”

Since his first grab ended up in failure, Lin Dong was about to continue trying. However, an exceedingly ferocious Yuan Power undulation suddenly gushed towards his back again. This caused his expression to darken as he turned his head, only to find the middle-aged perfect Yuan Dan stage man staring back at him with an ominous glint in the latter’s eyes.

“Brat, beat it before this old man gets serious!”

Upon seeing the middle-aged man’s devilish look, Lin Dong could not help but let out a icy chuckle. Without further ado, his mind moved as the Manifestation Symbol Array straightaway appeared.

“Manifest, thousand flames!”

Lin Dong did not waste any time to probe the opponent's strength, at this critical juncture, he understood that he could not afford to waste too much time with anyone. Therefore, when he attacked, he directly used the Manifestation Symbol Array's strongest move.

A tiny flame flew out from the symbol array, and as it travelled, a series of explosions were heard. Upon witnessing this scene, that middle-aged man's facial expression changed radically. He never expected that Lin Dong would display such a powerful attack. Immediately, he hurriedly mobilized the Yuan Power inside his body, as it swiftly condensed before him.

“Bang!”

Just as his Yuan Power almost formed into a defensive shield, that tiny flame arrived. A deep explosion sound echoed forth, before that middle-aged man immediately spat out a mouthful of fresh blood. His body also collided heavily against the ground, the injuries that he had sustained were evidently not light.

Lin Dong was not too excited after swiftly dispatching this perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner. Quickly turning his head, he once again planned to snatch that spear-like Soul Treasure. However, he suddenly realized that a suction force had exploded out nearby. Furthermore, that suction force was headed straight for that spear-like Soul Treasure.

Someone else has joined in this fight for the spear-like Soul Treasure!

When he saw this sight, Lin Dong's expression slightly darkened. As he turned around to look, his facial expression began to change. This was because the person who had intervened, was actually Wang Pan from Wang Clan!

“That person did not go for the blade-like Soul Treasure, but instead targeted this plain looking Soul Treasure? Did he discover the secret as well?” Lin Dong's gaze rapidly flickered while his facial expression was in flux.

Just as Lin Dong's expression was in a flux, Wang Pan, who was standing nearby, coldly glanced at the former. The menacing glare he gave was extremely intimidating, evidently warning Lin Dong that it was best for him not to intervene.

“Damnit, I don't care if you are from the Wang Clan. Since I want it, this Soul Treasure is mine!”

Lin Dong's expression was dark. If this spear-like Soul Treasure indeed had the potential the small marten had described, then, it would be absolutely worth the risk. Even though Lin Dong did not know the true value of a high-grade Soul Treasure, he guessed that even among the four great clans, there were only a handful who possessed these objects.

“Small marten, hold him down. I will snatch that Soul Treasure!”

Lin Dong echoed in his mind. After which, he immediately utilized a trace of Mental Energy to directly block off Wang Pan's suction force. Then, in a flash, Lin Dong dashed towards that spear-like Soul Treasure.

“Kid, you have guts!” When he saw that Lin Dong had actually intervened, Wang Pan's facial expression instantly darkened. With a menacing glint in his eyes, Pure Yuangang Energy gathered in front of him, before transforming into a vicious palm symbol which ruthlessly flew towards Lin Dong's back.

However, in response to Wang Pan's attack, there were no signs of Lin Dong even turning his head. As that palm symbol was about to hit Lin Dong's body, a dark purple light beam shot out from his body, and turned into a dark purple vortex, which immediately swallowed Wang Pan's formidable attack.

“Good, seems like you have some moves!”

This scene caused Wang Pan to be slightly taken aback. Promptly, he focused and with a flip of his palm, a sharp disc-shaped glowing object immediately appeared in his hand. Based on its appearance, it seemed to be a Soul Treasure.

“Buzz buzz!”

When that disc-shaped blade appeared, it began to rotate frantically. Then, an extremely glaring light began to enshroud that disc, as a formidable wind sounds echoed forth.

“Go!”

Wang Pan thrust his fingers out, as that disc-shaped blade swept forward at a terrifying speed. In the blink of an eye, it directly tore through the air, leaving behind a black line, in fact, most people could not even see its shadow. That disc blade appeared behind Lin Dong, its formidable force causing his scalp to feel slightly numb. Was this the power of a Soul Treasure?

“Tch!”

Just as Lin Dong panicked and planned to turn around, a cold snort from the small marten sounded out inside his mind. Promptly, a dark purple glow shot out from Lin Dong’s body. Like a blob of sticky glue, it directly wrapped around that glowing disc blade.

“Szz szz!”

As that disc blade was wrapped by the dark purple glob of light, waves of white mist immediately erupted from its surface, as a sizzling sound faintly echoed out.

When he saw this sight, a look of shock surfaced in Wang Pan’s eyes. He could sense that the soul energy on his Soul Treasure was actually being corroded by that peculiar dark purple light. At this rate, the Soul Treasure may become completely useless.

At this thought, Wang Pan also hurriedly waved his hand to

recall it. The disc blade struggled frantically, before it finally managed to escape from the dark purple light. However, when it returned to Wang Pan's hands, the glow on its surface had dimmed quite a bit. Evidently, it had taken some damage.

“Good job!”

Lin Dong was likewise shocked by this scene. Evidently, he did not expect the small marten to possess this kind of method. Promptly, his feet hurriedly took two steps forward, as he finally managed to grab onto that spear shaped Soul Treasure again.

“Buzz buzz!”

When Lin Dong grabbed onto it, that Soul Treasure once again began to struggle. However, this time around, Lin Dong was well prepared. Yuan Power gathered at the center of his palm, and wrapped around the Soul Treasure as he firmly grabbed it.

Even though Lin Dong refused to let go, that Soul Treasure began to struggle even more violently, in fact, it seemed a little frantic.

“Bastard!”

When he saw this situation, Lin Dong's face turned green. After expending so much effort, even holding off that Wang Pan, if he was to be thwarted by this Soul Treasure, it would be too ridiculous!

“There is a soul within every Soul Treasure, which will resist any person. Use Yuan Power to activate the Stone Talisman embedded in your palm!” While Lin Dong painfully hung on, the small marten’s voice suddenly echoed out.

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong instantly activated his Yuan Power and poured it into the Stone Talisman within his palm.

“Buzz!”

When Yuan Power first gushed into the mysterious Stone Talisman, the latter vibrated slightly for a moment. Then, it released an extremely soft buzzing sound, as a peculiar shockwave flowed forth from his palm and reached the maniacally resisting Soul Treasure.

As that shockwave arrived, the spear shaped Soul Treasure immediately stopped resisting. In fact, even the glow on its surface dimmed. Lin Dong seemed to faintly detect a hint of fear from that Soul Treasure.

Right now, Lin Dong did not have the luxury of contemplating over why this Soul Treasure would feel this way. When he saw that this spear-like Soul Treasure had finally been tamed, his was delighted in his heart. With a flip of his palm, he immediately kept it into his Qiankun bag.

“Haha!”

Obtaining a Soul Treasure for the first time in his life, Lin Dong's heart was overwhelmed with joy, until eventually he could no longer bear it and started laughing heartily.

“Kid, you dare to damage my Soul Treasure. If you do not surrender that other Soul Treasure as compensation, I won't let you leave this old tomb alive!”

However, as Lin Dong's laughter ended, an extremely enraged voice slowly echoed out from nearby.

Chapter 173: Ancient Heavenly Scales

Halberd

When he heard that cold voice, Lin Dong's facial expression did not change. Turning around, he looked at Wang Pan, who had a grim expression on his face, as he casually uttered: "There are no rules in the fight for a treasure. It's natural for one to get hurt."

"Brat, you still dare to argue!"

An enraged look surfaced in Wang Pan's eyes. However, for now, he did not dare to attack again. After that short battle previously, the Glowing Flame Blade Disc in his hand had already lost most of its soul energy. If this continued on, his Soul Treasure may become useless.

To Wang Pan, even a low-grade Soul Treasure was a highly valuable object. Though the four great clans were extremely powerful, there were also quite a few geniuses within the clan. Therefore, it was not possible for each one of them to have a Soul Treasure. Even he had expended a large amount of effort in order to obtain this Glowing Flame Blade Disc. Now that it has been damaged, how could his heart not ache?

Moreover, thanks to his keen eyesight, he could tell that the spear shaped Soul Treasure, that Lin Dong had kept into his Qiankun bag, was somewhat extraordinary. Hence, unlike most of the others, he did not directly aim for the seemingly most powerful looking blade shaped Soul Treasure, and instead chose to fight for this spear shaped Soul Treasure.

At first, he thought that based on his abilities and with aid of his Soul Treasure, it would be easy to obtain. However, the situation before his eyes caused him to fume till he almost saw stars. He had ended up even worse off than initially!

Based on Wang Pan's character, he was evidently unable to tolerate this injustice!

Lin Dong calmly stared at Wang Pan, while he started to move the Yuan Power in his body. Then, he suddenly clenched his fist, as that spear like Soul Treasure appeared in his hand. Biting his tongue, a mouthful of essence blood sprayed out. At the same time, Mental Energy rushed forth and wrapped around that ball of essence blood, before directly fusing it into the spear shaped Soul Treasure in his hands.

“Buzz buzz!”

As the essence blood assimilated into the spear shaped Soul Treasure, the latter's surface began to exhibit a bright red glow. The glow brightened as the originally unremarkable Soul Treasure suddenly began to emit rays of light. Meanwhile, its figure also underwent quite a change.

At first, the surface of this Soul Treasure was dark and only vaguely resembled a spear. However, it had now elongated by quite a bit, and it no longer retained its indistinct spear shape, but instead, became a long halberd!

The long halberd was entirely blood red, and its body was perfectly straight. Along the shaft of the halberd, were scale-like patterns, and at the tip of the long halberd, a forbidding glint flowed on its sharp and menacing blade. Furthermore, sinister tiny scales lined the blade, forming a row of teeth. Hence, one could imagine just how deadly a strike of that halberd would be.

Lin Dong stared at the changed Soul Treasure, as awe surfaced in his eyes. He casually swung it, and it tore apart the air with ‘wu wu’ sounds. Even though it was at a distance away from the ground, an invisible blade wind still left a mark on the solid surface.

“Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd!”

Lin Dong’s eyes turned to look at that long halberd. Hidden among the scales were four grand and ancient words.

“What a formidable halberd!”

As he gripped onto the halberd, a heroic feeling surfaced in Lin Dong’s heart. With such a deadly weapon in hand, even a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner would pose little threat to him!

“You bastard, how dare you leave an essence blood imprint!”

Lin Dong’s actions were extremely swift. Thus, it was only when the Soul Treasure had transformed, did Wang Pan then regain his wits. Immediately, his face turned as black as the bottom of a pan.

Previously, the Ancient Heavenly Scale Halberd was an ownerless item, and whoever left behind their essence blood imprint first, would become the owner of this Soul Treasure. And now,... it was evident that Lin Dong had completely taken possession of this Soul Treasure!

Although he could still erase the imprint if he could snatch it back, it would be exceedingly troublesome.

Overwhelmed by rage, Wang Pan no longer hesitated. With a wave of his hand, that Glowing Flame Blade Disc in his hand began to swirl manically. A ring of red-hot fire surrounded it, as an exceedingly formidable and powerful undulation emerged.

“Go!”

Wang Pan’s face was malicious. With a wave of his hand, that frantically swirling disc above his head tore through the air with a swoosh sound, before it flew at an insane speed towards Lin Dong. The force behind this attack was so powerful that even a perfect Yuan Dan practitioner would be forced to avoid it.

“Humph!”

When he saw that Wang Pan still refused to give up, Lin Dong coldly snorted. The Yuan Power in his gushed forth, as the Ancient Heavenly Scale Halberd in his hand jolted forward, and a dark golden glow immediately formed on its tip. Then, taking two steps forward, that ancient halberd drew a dark golden trail in mid-air, as the surrounding air continuously exploded. Without backing

off, he directly swung it against the incoming Glowing Flame Blade Disc.

“Clang!”

As both weapons collided, sparks immediately exploded forth, before a stunningly powerful shockwave gushed forth from the epicenter. That Glowing Flame Blade Disc, that was powerful enough to tear apart a perfect Yuan Dan practitioner’s defenses, was directly blown away with a swing of Lin Dong’s halberd.

That powerful aftershock flowed through the tip of the halberd, and gushed towards Lin Dong. However, when this energy reached the shaft of the halberd, the scales on its surface began to wiggle, as they directly dispelled all the energy from the aftershock.

A Soul Treasure was truly extraordinary.

Thanks to the might of this ancient halberd, Lin Dong directly countered Wang Pan’s Glowing Flame Blade Disc, and, his body was not even pushed back. Meanwhile, the mysterious dark gold from the ancient halberd caused him to become the focal point of this giant hall.

Currently, the battle for these Soul Treasures had almost concluded after an explosive fight, and all of the remaining five Soul Treasures now had their respective owners after a gruelling battle.

“Big brother Wang Pan!”

As curtain to the Soul Treasure battle dropped, the other Wang Clan members also discovered Lin Dong’s and Wang Pan’s duel. When they saw that Wang Pan’s Glowing Flame Blade Disc was swatted away by Lin Dong, a look of shock surfaced in their eyes.

“That kid has obtained a Soul Treasure too!”

That bunch of Wang Clan members stared at the rather sinister looking Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd in Lin Dong’s hands, as a greedy and fervent expression surfaced in their eyes.

“Such a powerful Soul Treasure!”

Wang Pan’s eyes were likewise staring directly at the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd Lin Dong’s hands. His Glowing Flame Blade Disc was still a low tier Soul Treasure, yet, it was reduced to such a sorry state at the hands of that Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd. Evidently, the latter should be a middle tier Soul Treasure like that blade shaped Soul Treasure.

At this thought, the greed in Wang Pan’s eyes intensified. If he could obtain this Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd, then, amongst those of the same stage, few would be able to match up against him!

“That kid has damaged my Soul Treasure. Let’s attack and kill him together!” A vicious glint flashed across Wang Pan’s eyes as he

suddenly shouted out.

Wang Pan evidently held quite a high status the other Wang Clan members' hearts. When they heard his shout, cold lights flickered in their eyes. The Wang Clan were always rather domineering, and its younger generation members were even more insolent. Hence, it was not the first time that they had done such a deed.

As he observed the dozen of menacing glazes from the Wang Clan members, Lin Dong's eyes also turned slightly icy. However, he was not afraid. He tightly gripped onto the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd, as a formidable aura immediately spread out!

“Wang Pan, what you are planning to do?!”

However, just as Wang Pan and the rest were about engage Lin Dong using their overwhelming numbers, a cold shout suddenly rang out. Quickly, Lin Dong saw Lin Ke-er and the rest swiftly rushing over.

When Lin Ke-er and the rest arrived, their eyes initially paused on the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd in Lin Dong's hands, as a look of envy and desire surfaced on Lin Chen's and the rest's faces. Lin Ke-er was the only exception. Nonetheless, she was still slightly shocked that Lin Dong could actually obtain such a treasure.

“Lin Dong is a member of my Lin Clan. He is not someone you can kill just because you want to!” Lin Ke-er turned her head to look at Wang Pan, before she icily declared.

“Oh? I have never heard of a younger generation member in the Lin Clan called Lin Dong!” Upon hearing these words, that Wang Pan’s expression slightly sunk as he coldly chuckled.

“Even though he belongs to a branch family, it is still barely enough for him to be counted as part of the Lin Clan.” To one side, Lin Feng suddenly said.

“Hehe, a member of the branch family? Lin Ke-er, since when has your Lin Clan fallen so low? Even an ant-like existence such as a branch family member is now being called a main clan member?” When he heard these words, Wang Pan let out a strange laughter as he replied.

Lin Ke-er turned her head and fiercely glared at Lin Feng. Then she said in an indifferent tone: “This is none of your business. No matter what, his family name is Lin, and that should be enough. If you want to kill him in front of me, then you will have to ask permission from my blades first.”

When she spoke, Lin Ke-er lifted her lily-white hands as two blades immediately hovered beside her. The first sword was something that Lin Dong had seen before, it was the Shattered Ice Sword. Meanwhile, the other pinkish short sword was filled with an enormous amount of soul energy, which did not lose out to Lin Dong’s Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd. Based on this scene, it seems like the blade shaped Soul Treasure had fallen into her hands.

“You!”

As he stared at the blades before Lin Ke-er, which emitted powerful shock waves, Wang Pan’s facial expression turned exceedingly grim. He never expected that the blade-like Soul Treasure had landed in Lin Ke-er’s hands. Right now, he was no longer able to match up against Lin Ke-er, who possessed two Soul Treasures. Furthermore, to the other side, there was also Lin Dong, whose strength had surged after he obtained the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd.

Based on the current situation, they were clearly unable to gain any advantage.

“You bastard, just you wait. What is mine will not be so easily taken away!”

“Sooner or later, I will make you spit it out!”

Since the situation did not favor him, Wang Pan could only swallow the rage inside his heart, as he glanced viciously at Lin Dong. Then, he waved his sleeve as he turned and walked towards the other side of the giant hall. Behind him, the rest of the Wang Clan members were also somewhat disgruntled as they followed him unhappily.

Chapter 174: Symbol Puppet

As he gazed at the leaving figures of Wang Pan and the rest, in his heart, Lin Dong slowly sighed in relief. He was not afraid of them, with his current strength, it was not difficult to defeat a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner. As for the rest of those guys, although they were somewhat strong, they were at the level of Lin Chen or Lin Feng, practically unable to threaten Lin Dong.

Lin Dong slowly landed on the ground, ignoring Lin Chen's and the rest's longing gazes as he casually kept the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd in his Qiankun bag. After which, he clasped his hands together at Lin Ke-er and said: "Many thanks."

"You were really slow in reaching this place, we even waited a while for you when we first entered." Lin Ke-er also kept the two Soul Treasures, which floated in front of her, as she smiled and replied.

"I'm accustomed to being alone." Lin Dong chuckled and said.

"I truly did not expect that you would actually be so powerful, that you could snatch the Soul Treasure from Wang Pan. No wonder he seemed like a cat whose tail had been stepped on." Lin Ke-er did not mind as she sweetly smiled and said.

"I was just lucky." Lin Dong laughed as he replied. Soon after, he chose not to linger on this topic for too long, instead, he gazed towards another exit of the huge hall. That was the entrance to the deeper parts of the old tomb, and also the direction Wang Pan and

the rest had headed in. Looks like they were still not ready to give up on finding more treasures in this place.

“Big brother Lin Langtian and the rest have most likely already reached the center of the old tomb. For them, the Soul Treasures here are not of much interest.” Lin Ke-er said.

Lin Dong lightly nodded his head. Given Lin Langtian’s, Wang Yan’s and the rest’s status in their respective clans, a mere midgrade Soul Treasure was indeed unable to cause them to pause in their step. After all, there might even more precious treasures in the deeper parts of the old tomb.

“We plan to rest and reorganize here for a while before entering the later areas. What about you? Do you want to come with us?” To one side, old man Tao chuckled as he asked.

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong took a look at this large hall. Due to the fact that the struggle for the Soul Treasures had already ended, most people were already rushing towards the deeper part of the old tomb without skipping a beat. Furthermore, the hearts of those who had arrived after the battle for the Soul Treasures had ended, was filled with regret. Since they did not reap any rewards, they naturally were not willing for things to end this way. Thus, without the slightest hesitation, they charged towards the deeper parts of the tomb. For a time, this area seemed to become just another tunnel to pass through.

“I’ll enter first to take a look around, if I’m really unable to find anything else, I’ll just forget about it.”

Upon seeing this scene, Lin Dong chuckled. Although he had already obtained quite a harvest this time, he had yet to find the so-called 'Extreme Yin Dragon Saliva'. This was one of the goals he had set for himself for this trip to the old tomb this time. If he was unable to find it, Qingtan's situation would be extremely perilous.

Therefore, he could not withdraw at this time.

As for once again grouping up with Lin Ke-er and the rest, Lin Dong was somewhat reluctant in his heart. Perhaps, he may still be able to trust old man Tao and Lin Ke-er, but, with regards to Lin Chen and the rest, and especially Lin Feng, Lin Dong could not possibly travel with them. In fact, just a while back, Lin Feng had purposely said those words in hopes of making Wang Pan attack Lin Dong.

With these thoughts in mind, Lin Dong calmly looked at Lin Feng, who was behind old man Tao, as a cold murderous intent surfaced in the depths of his eyes. Lin Feng also seemed to be aware of this, as his face turned a little rigid, and his body shrunk to hide behind old man Tao.

Lin Ke-er was also rather clever, when she saw Lin Dong's expression, she knew that the latter hated Lin Feng and the rest quite a bit. Thus, she could only softly sigh as she said: "Since you are determined to do so, go ahead. Also, be extra careful."

Lin Dong slightly smiled as he nodded his head. He clasped his hands together at old man Tao and Lin Ke-er, before whistling out.

Nearby, Little Flame quickly flashed to his side, as he leapt onto the tiger's back. Together, they transformed into a gale as they directly rushed towards the passageway leading to the deeper part of the old tomb.

“This kid is becoming more and more arrogant...” As he gazed at Lin Dong's leaving figure, Lin Feng could not help but sneer in a low voice.

“Shut up!”

As his words sounded out, Lin Ke-er suddenly turned her head and sternly said: “Given Lin Dong's strength, he would definitely achieve great things at the clan gathering two years later. At that time, his prospects would be limitless, you will truly be asking for it if you provoke him again!”

After being berated by Lin Ke-er, Lin Feng's expression alternated between green and white. However, due to Lin Ke-er's identity and power, he did not dare to rebut and could only resentfully shut his mouth.

Lin Dong knew nothing of Lin Ke-er scolding Lin Feng and the rest. After he entered that passageway, the scene before him widened once again as an extremely spacious area appeared before his eyes. This huge area was filled with numerous gigantic wooden poles, and these poles seemed to soar towards the heavens as they stood closely together, creating numerous paths lined with wooden poles which curved and meandered. No one knew where these paths led to.

Lin Dong was also taken aback by this change in scenery. As he took two steps forward, he suddenly discovered that there were some black limb-like objects on the ground. He picked one up and inspected it, it seemed to be a human's broken limb, however, this broken limb was entirely black and was exceedingly heavy. Evidently, it was cast from high quality metal, and on the surface of the broken limb, there seemed to be some mysterious symbols.

“This is a Symbol Puppet. Some practitioners like to create them for entertainment. They can be used to guard the house and are not bad at all...” While Lin Dong staring in a daze at this thing, the small marten's voice sounded out in his mind.

“Symbol Puppet...” Lin Dong mumbled to himself.

“Simply put, there are three tiers of Symbol Puppets, upper, middle and lower. However, the broken limb from a Symbol Puppet in your hand is likely not even from a lower tier one, and can only be called a defective product. Furthermore, it is said that there some even higher grade Symbol Puppets above the upper tier ones, but, I'm do not know much about them.”

“Outside the Great Yan Empire, there are some special great sects that specialize in controlling such Symbol Puppets. These are the ones that are terrifying. I once saw a Nirvana stage practitioner being ripped apart by two of these Symbol Puppets...”

“Ripping a Nirvana stage practitioner apart...” Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong's brain seemed to overload. What kind of

Symbol Puppet was so terrifying? To think that it could kill even a Nirvana stage practitioner.

Lin Dong mulled about this for a time, but was still unable to imagine how terrifying such a Symbol Puppet was. He could only let out a bitter laugh as he shook his head. The world outside the Great Yan Empire was indeed strange and wondrous.

“If you want to look for elixirs, take the left path. There seems to be some elixir undulations there.” The small marten was clearly not very interested in these Symbol Puppets, thus, it pointed at a path after explaining.

“Okay.”

Lin Dong nodded his head, before patting Little Flame as the latter dashed forward like a ghost.

Swiftly sweeping into peculiar wooden pole formation, Lin Dong found quite a few broken Symbol Puppet limbs along the way. Furthermore, there were also traces of a fight, indicating that someone had done battle with the Symbol Puppets in this area.

As he travelled, Lin Dong also encountered some Symbol Puppets, however, when he saw these exasperatingly slow and rigid guys, he finally understood why there were broken limbs all over the area. This kind of Symbol Puppets was really too shabby, besides their huge strength, they seemed to be reduced to target practise.

After casually destroying a few Symbol Puppets, Lin Dong lost interest as he lightly patted Little Flame as their speed once again increased.

However, while Little Flame ran at full speed, they followed the wooden pathways for over a dozen minutes, yet, there seemed to be no exit to the path before their eyes.

“Something seems amiss...”

This situation once again lasted for another few minutes before Lin Dong finally allowed Little Flame to stop. His expression was serious and he felt that they seemed to be going in circles. Moreover, while they travelled, they did not encounter anyone else, if it were not for the traces of a fight that remained, Lin Dong would believe that he was the only person here.

“This seems to be some kind of formation...” The little sable also sensed that something was wrong. It appeared on Lin Dong’s shoulder as its eyes swept across the surroundings, before it helplessly said: “Truly troublesome, I detest these annoying formations the most.”

“What should we do now?” Lin Dong scratched his head. They could not possibly continue this way right? Sooner or later, they would end up dead from fatigue.

“Let me probe about for a while, although I am not very adept at formations, the wooden pole formation should not be too profound.” The small marten spread out its claws before it closed

its eyes. Next, an extremely tiny insulation spread outwards.

“Walk three hundred steps forward.”

This probe lasted for a moment before the little marten once again opened its eyes as its claws pointed forward.

Upon hearing this, Lin Dong was skeptical as he walked three hundred steps forward. After finding that there was still no exit before him, he spread his arms out and asked: “What now?”

“Don’t look forward, use your hand to push the eighth wooden pole to your left.” The small marten replied.

“Oh?”

Lin Dong was stunned for a while, soon after, a flash of realization hit him. It turned out that the true road was not to his front, but at the sides. The path before him was nothing more than a distraction...

When he recalled that he had actually followed the path for such a long time, Lin Dong could not help but roll his eyes. His palm pushed towards the eighth wooden pole.

“Rumble!”

As Lin Dong’s palm pushed, the wall of wooden poles before him

suddenly moved, and a path appeared in front of him.

“Such an ingenious mechanism.”

Lin Dong secretly praised it as he strolled forward. Many wooden poles still formed the walls here, however, after his previous experience, Lin Dong no longer panicked. After once again pushing open several pathways, a spacious drilling field appeared before his eyes.

Upon seeing that they had finally left the wooden pole formation, Lin Dong sighed in relief. He walked forward and slightly paused, he had found that quite a number of Symbol Puppets were neatly lined up in this drilling field. From the looks of it, their numbers exceeded the hundreds.

“For this kind of useless Symbol Puppets, no matter how many there are, they will only be decorations...” Lin Dong took one look at them before he shook his head.

However, just as he smiled and was about to enter the drilling field, the small marten’s voice suddenly rang out.

“Foolish brat, these Symbol Puppets are all lower tier Symbol Puppets. Their individual battle power does not lose to a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner.”

Lin Dong’s body immediately froze, before his scalp suddenly turned numb. A perfect Yuan Dan stage Symbol Puppet? And there

were even over a hundred of them?

“Oh my god, what the heck is this?”

Lin Dong’s scalp was numb as he slowly withdrew his foot and stared at the quiet drilling field.

Chapter 175: Middle Ranked Symbol Puppet

Over a hundred Symbol Puppets with strengths comparable to the perfect Yuan Dan stage, what kind of concept was this? If all of them were to rush over, even a Form Creation stage practitioner would be forced to temporarily flee right?

Thus, when Lin Dong heard the little marten's words, he immediately showed signs of trying to escape. Although he was confident in himself, he was not blindly arrogant. With his current strength, it might be difficult for him to defeat a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner, but, to defeat over a hundred...that would only happen in his dreams.

“What are you afraid of? Though these Symbol Puppets have a strength comparable to the perfect Yuan Dan stage, they are all broken products.” While Lin Dong was being anxious, the small marten could not help but chuckle at his antics.

“Broken products?” Lin Dong was taken aback, only then did he take a closer look at these Symbol Puppets. Sure enough, he found that there was not even the slightest bit of energy undulations in their bodies. They did not move at all and seemed like metal pillars.

“The symbol inscriptions inside these Symbol Puppets have already faded, they are basically useless. Though they look terrifying, they are actually just a bunch of metal eyesores. Let's go.”

Upon hearing this, Lin Dong quietly sighed in relief, as he slowly walked into the drilling field that was filled with Symbol Puppets. However, even though the marten had said so, he was still extremely cautious. His palm gripped onto the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd, which once again appeared in his hands, as it flickered with a dark red light. Once the ancient halberd was in his hands, Lin Dong's heart felt a little more at ease.

There was no other noise in this quiet field, only Lin Dong's soft footsteps sounded out, while he walked through the numerous Symbol Puppets. As he gazed at the ice-cold metal lumps around him, he felt a little dread in his heart. If these metal lumps suddenly came to life, it would truly be a tragedy for him.

Fortunately, the most tragic scenario did not occur. Although the little marten loved to discourage him, its words still held some credibility.

The ferocious looking Symbol Puppet army did not move in the end, and Lin Dong also successfully passed through. Only when he arrived at the other end of the training field did he finally let out a soft sigh of relief. He lifted his head and looked forward, as a potent medicine smell drifted towards him.

What appeared before Lin Dong was a lake with water so clear that you could see the bottom. At the center of the lake, was a tiny pond that was built using jade. Quite a few elixirs were growing within the tiny pond and from the looks of it, they were not low quality products.

Upon seeing this scene, delight surfaced in Lin Dong's eyes. He

swept forward to the edge of the pond while his eyes scanned the area, before concentrating on a black elixir inside the medicine pond. That elixir looked very much like a curled up tiny snake, and gave out an extremely potent Yin energy, resulting in a layer of cold Qi covering the surrounding water. A rather peculiar sight.

“Extreme Yin Dragon Saliva!”

As he stared at this black elixir, excitement finally rose up in Lin Dong’s heart. He had searched high and low for it and had at last finally found it.

A sliver of Lin Dong’s Mental Energy reached out and gently cut off that ‘Extreme Yin Dragon Saliva’. After which, it was very carefully placed into a jade box that had been prepared in advance.

After obtaining the ‘Extreme Yin Dragon Saliva’, Lin Dong felt like a burden was lifted off his shoulders. Only now did he have the mood to inspect the other elixirs. The grades of the elixirs within this medicine pond were not low. Lin Dong had spent a tremendous amount of effort before he was barely able to obtain a grade six elixir in Yan City, yet, there were at least ten of such elixirs here. Furthermore, there seemed to be some lingering traces of an extremely potent energy at the center of the medicine pond, however, after discovering the stem which had been cut, it was clear that it had already been taken away by someone.

Upon seeing that the best elixir had already been taken, Lin Dong could only helplessly shake his head. This was likely done by Lin Langtian and the rest. An elixir that could cause them to stop and collect it was definitely no ordinary item. Fortunately, the Extreme

Yin Dragon Saliva was not taken too...

“Grade six elixirs are also not bad.”

Lin Dong consoled himself in his heart before taking action, collecting every single elixir inside the pond no matter what grade they were at. Thus, a short few minutes later, the originally lush medicine pond had become rather empty. Only the faintly green pond water seemed to emit a faint medicine fragrance.

One could not blame Lin Dong for being greedy, after all, he did not have the vast resources that Lin Langtian, Wang Yan and the others had. He completely depended on himself to obtain his strength, and though the rest would not give a second look to these elixirs, for Lin Dong, they were still rather precious.

“Phew...”

After collecting the last elixir, Lin Dong let out a long sigh. He lifted his head and looked at the stone door which had already been shattered, he could sense that perhaps Lin Langtian and the rest were already not that far ahead. This place was after all considered as the inner part of the old tomb.

“I really want to find out exactly what kind of treasures are inside!”

Lin Dong’s gaze slightly flickered, but he did not immediately leave. Perhaps he may be unable to contest over the treasures with

experts like Lin Langtian and the rest, but, he truly wanted to know what they managed to obtain.

“Wait a moment!”

However, just as Lin Dong was planning to progress onwards, the little marten suddenly appeared in a flash. Its gaze was not pointed towards the front, but instead staring at the now empty medicine pond.

“What is it?” Lin Dong was also taken aback by its actions. He looked at the green medicine pond, but did not discover anything, hence, he was puzzled as he asked.

“There seems to be something underneath this medicine pond.” The little marten looked at the medicine pond as its claws suddenly waved. The pond water started to swirl, as if streams of water were being sucked out.

As the pond water in the medicine pond was being sucked out, the bottom of the pond was revealed, and Lin Dong found that there was actually a copper head within the ooze at the bottom of the pond. It was a Symbol Puppet.

“Another Symbol Puppet...” Upon seeing this, Lin Dong shook his head in disappointment.

“Heh, brat, this Symbol Puppet is no ordinary one, I think that it should be a middle ranked Symbol Puppet, and its battle power is

comparable to that of a Form Creation stage practitioner.” The small marten said.

“Middle ranked Symbol Puppet?” Lin Dong was stunned, soon after, he once again shook his head: “Whether it’s middle ranked or lower ranked, it is still scrap metal.”

“You’re wrong, this Symbol Puppet is not scrap metal, it can still be used!” The small marten let out a strange laughter: “Stop being so flustered, most of the symbol inscriptions in this Symbol Puppet are complete, it only lacks the energy to move.”

“Then, can I take it away?” Lin Dong’s gaze flashed as he asked.

The little marten’s claws waved, as the Symbol Puppet flew out from the mid. After dipping it into the lake water to clean it for a while, it was placed in front of Lin Dong.

This Symbol Puppet was about two meters tall and it held a bronze lance in its hand, making it look exceedingly tall and sturdy. Its entire body was faintly green, as if it was built with a special material. There were also lines of extremely complicated patterns on its body, however, the markings near its eyes were black and did not glow.

Just from its appearance alone, this Symbol Puppet looked several times stronger than the ones Lin Dong had seen earlier.

The small marten’s claws touched the forehead of the Symbol

Puppet, as a vortex quickly surfaced there. The inside of the vortex was empty and did not contain anything at all.

“The brand has already faded, and it can still be used. Use your Mental Energy to inscribe a brand here.” The small marten instructed.

Upon hearing this, Lin Dong was delighted. A trace of Mental Energy was swiftly cast into that vortex, as he started to inscribe a brand there. And as the brand was successfully inscribed, a faint imprint appeared on that bronze Symbol Puppets forehead.

“Good, now this Symbol Puppet belongs to you.”

Lin Dong’s eyes were filled with joy. Was it so simple to obtain a Symbol Puppet with power comparable to Form Creation stage practitioner?

While he celebrated, Lin Dong also sent out some commands in his mind, however, the Symbol Puppet before him did not move.

“What is going on?” Upon seeing this scene, Lin Dong could not help but cry out in astonishment.

“Didn’t I say it before, this Symbol Puppet does not have the energy to move.” The small marten rolled its eyes and said.

Lin Dong blinked, and suddenly sensed that something was amiss. Immediately, he very carefully asked: “How can I give it

energy? Also, if I want it to fight with a Form Creation stage practitioner, how much energy would it need?”

“With regards to energy, you can directly inject Pure Yuan pills into the Symbol Puppet’s body. As for the amount needed to utilise an attack comparable to a Form Creation stage practitioner, you should need about two thousand Pure Yuan pills. Remember, this is only the amount needed to release one attack. After the attack is released, if you want to continue, you need to use more Pure Yuan pills.” The small marten spread out its claws and answered.

“Two thousand Pure Yuan pills for a single attack?! God damnit, why don’t we go rob a bank!”

The connection was finally made in his mind, Lin Dong’s face was flushed red as he howled in exasperation. Two thousand Pure Yuan pills for one attack, god damnit, wouldn’t this mean that he could only make this Symbol Puppet let loose ten attacks after using everything he had?

This useless thing, who could afford such an expenditure!

“Kid, do you think a strike from a Form Creation stage practitioner is weak? Others people would painstakingly train for dozens or even over a hundred years to reach this level, and now, you only need to use two thousand Pure Yuan pills to launch an attack that is equally strong, and you’re still not content?” The small marten sneered, however, no matter how one listened to it, its voice sounded as if it was delighted at this misfortune that had befallen Lin Dong.

Lin Dong was speechless, as he gazed in extreme grief at the tall and sturdy Symbol Puppet which stood before him. Originally, he was under the impression that it would be a great assistant, only now did he realise that it was actually a money burning object...

If a rich person obtained this Symbol Puppet, he would likely be crazy with delight, but, to Lin Dong, who did not have a huge capital, if it was not for the twenty thousand Pure Yuan pills he had obtained in the old tomb this time, he would perhaps be unable to take out the Pure Yuan pills needed to unleash a single attack...

This thing was practically useless for someone who did not have the capital!

Chapter 176: Sea of Fire

“Stop bawling, though the cost of activating this thing is not small, no one asked you to use it all the time. At a critical moment, it could possible save your life.” Upon seeing Lin Dong’s depressed appearance, the small marten could not help but roll its eyes and say.

“Other people would be so excited if they obtain this kind of middle ranked Symbol Puppet, it’s only two thousand Pure Yuan pills after all.”

After hearing the little marten’s words, Lin Dong immediately rolled his eyes. He was no important figure and did not have the support of a great clan. Behind him, there was only an unremarkable and tiny Lin Family.

“Ai, fine, I’ll just take it as picking up a lousy piece of life insurance.” Lin Dong softly sighed. Like the little marten said, even if the cost to activate this Symbol Puppet was not small, there are times when it would perhaps be able to achieve a life changing effect. When comparing two thousand Pure Yuan pills to his life, the latter was more precious.

With these thoughts, Lin Dong also raised his hand and kept the Symbol Puppet into his Qiankun bag. After which, he turned his head to gaze at the broken door nearby. Deeply exhaling a breath of air, he did not hesitate as he beckoned with his hand, taking the lead to slowly walk over, while Little Flame and the small marten also swiftly followed.

After walking through the broken door, what entered his eyes was a huge mess. The remains of many broken Symbol Puppet limbs covered the floor, while some markings on the ground indicated that an intense battle had occurred here. These were probably left behind by Lin Langtian and the rest.

Lin Dong slowly walked within this messy passage, although he did not encounter any treasures, he also did not meet any obstruction. Looks like Lin Langtian and the rest had thoroughly cleaned this place, and anything that would obstruct them had been destroyed by force.

In this quietness, Lin Dong walked for about ten minutes as he passed through several spacious and huge halls. Towards the end, the traces of battle in these places became increasingly intense. One could tell that the Symbol Puppets later on were getting stronger and stronger, combined with their numbers, even Lin Langtian would have to make a little effort.

“Pa!”

When Lin Dong’s steps once again passed through another empty yet extremely messy huge hall, his gaze suddenly paused on curtain of light to his front.

This seems to be the end of the passage, with only the curtain of light emitting a faint glow. Lin Dong very carefully walked near that curtain of light before his eyes concentrated on a shattered Symbol Puppet in front of him. The color of this Symbol Puppet was exactly the same as the one he had obtained in the from the medicine pool, and it also looked to be a middle ranked Symbol

Puppet.

From the exceedingly fierce scars of battle, it was evident that this Symbol Puppet had once fought with Lin Langtian and the rest. However, in the end, it was still unable to stop them and had been forcefully destroyed.

“Even a middle ranked Symbol Puppet that has a power comparable to a Form Creation stage practitioner is unable to stop them.”

Lin Dong lowered his head and touched the broken Symbol Puppet, as a serious look flitted across his eyes. These guys were undoubtedly the finest younger generation members of the Great Yan Empire. Such strength truly caused one to gasp in admiration.

“The symbol inscriptions that the Nirvana stage practitioner had left on this Symbol Puppet had yet to fade completely, thus, he still possessed the ability to fight. And it is also because of this that they were unable to take it for their own use. Among the younger generation members of the Great Yan Empire, these four are still considered not bad, however, compared to that Nirvana stage practitioner, they still have a long way to go. Even after so many years, the symbol inscription was still not something they could erase.” The small marten sat on Lin Dong’s shoulders as it remarked.

Lin Dong lightly nodded his head. Truth be told, he was really fortunate to have picked up an ownerless middle ranked Symbol Puppet.

“If you enter from here, you should reach the core part of the old tomb. Do you plan on entering? It would likely be several times more dangerous inside than before.” The small marten looked at the curtain of light at their front as it spoke.

Lin Dong nodded his head and smiled: “Since we’ve already reached this place, would we still turn back?”

As his words were spoken, Lin Dong did not hesitate as he stepped forward and entered the screen of light. The screen of light undulated and his figure disappeared. After seeing this, the small marten and Little Flame also followed as they dashed into the screen of light.

...

After entering the screen of light, darkness appeared before Lin Dong’s eyes for a moment and in the next instance, a scarlet red light flooded his eyes. An extremely red-hot wave of fire attacked him and forced him to hastily utilise Yuan Power to protect his body.

After protecting his body, Lin Dong finally had the time to size up his surroundings. Immediately, astonishment colored his eyes, because what appeared before him was actually a scarlet red sea of fire, which was where the wave of heat from before had originated from.

“These flames should be illusionary right?” Lin Dong furrowed

his eyebrows as he inquired

“Whether it’s real or fake, who can be sure. This should be a great formation, and it seems to be rather well made.” The small marten looked for a while before its claws pointed towards the center of the flaming sea: “Oh, those few guys also seem to be stuck.”

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong’s gaze hastily shifted to look. Sure enough, he saw a few figures resisting the waves of fire within the flaming sea. Those figures turned out to be Lin Langtian and the rest.

“Such a strong great formation, to think that it could trap even Lin Langtian and the rest!” Lin Dong softly gaped before he spoke again: “Then, this great formation...I’m afraid we will also be unable to pass.”

“That may not be certain, every formation has its own method of passing through.” The small marten objected as its claws pointed towards the sea of fire to their front: “Do you see that the sea of fire is split into several paths of fire?”

Lin Dong’s eyes also turned in that direction, only then did he see that the sea of fire had actually been split into countless paths of fire.

“Is this the method to cross? However, there are so many paths, which one is the true path?” Lin Dong asked in astonishment.

“Heh heh, these paths are all fake. Lin Langtian and the rest have been unable to uncover this fact, they tried to follow these paths and instead ended up trapped in the formation.” The small marten let out a strange laughter as it said.

“All fake? Then where is the real one?” Lin Dong was once again taken aback.

“The road before us is the true path.” The small marten’s claws once again pointed forward. This time, it did not point towards any of the paths, but directly pointed at the burning sea of fire.

“The most impossible place is usually the most likely one.” As it gazed at Lin Dong’s shocked expression, the small marten laughed before it appeared in a flash on Lin Dong’s shoulder, and lazily said: “Let’s go, brat, be a little courageous.”

As he gazed at the raging sea of fire, Lin Dong let out a bitter laugh. You needed more than a little courage to charge into a sea of fire.

“Ai, I’ll try...”

After pausing on the spot for a while, Lin Dong finally gritted his teeth. Since he had already reached this place, he could not possibly retreat. Although Lin Langtian and the rest were trapped, he at least still had this extremely experienced little marten as his marten advisor...

Since he had made his decision, Lin Dong no longer hesitated. A vigorous Yuan Power gushed forth and wrapped around his body. At the same time, the Mental Energy in his Niwan Palace also began to stir, preparing to deal with any sudden situation that might occur at any time.

Thoroughly prepared, Lin Dong's foot slowly stepped forward, as he was on the verge of stepping into the sea of flames, he once again firmly gritted his teeth as he stepped in.

As he walked into the sea of fire, the burning pain he anticipated did not come. Only then did Lin Dong's tensed heart finally relax, as he wiped off a layer of sweat from his forehead.

"Just continue forward." The small marten ridiculed Lin Dong for a while as always, before it waved its claws and said.

Lin Dong nodded his head, after calling for Little Flame, he continued to walk forward into the deeper parts of the flaming sea. The surrounding flames no longer caused Lin Dong to feel unwell, he tried to grab at the flames but instead seemed to have grabbed onto nothingness and he did not feel anything at all.

"This is truly bizarre."

Lin Dong secretly praised in his heart, as he quickened his pace. As he reached the deeper parts, he was gradually able to see Lin Langtian and the rest, who were giving their all to resist the columns of flame which shot out from the sea of fire. For a time, they seemed to be rather flustered. These unlucky fellows had

taken the wrong path and had instead ended up in the great formation's attack range.

In this sea of fire, Lin Dong was able to see Lin Langtian and the rest, however, it seems like they were unable to see the former, and it was also because of this, that Lin Dong was finally able to inspect them without fear.

“Eh...”

As Lin Dong's gaze swept across the sea of fire above him, he suddenly let out a cry of alarm. This was because he had discovered that the mysterious woman who stood atop the green lotus was unexpectedly not here.

“Could she also have successfully passed through this great formation?” Lin Dong's expression fluctuated. He was only able to effortlessly unravel this great formation under the small marten's guidance, yet, if that woman had overcome it with her own strength, wouldn't that be a little overwhelming? After all, even people as strong as Lin Langtian and the rest were all stuck here...

As Lin Dong's expression was in flux, an illusionary huge bronze door suddenly appeared in the sea of fire to his front.

Staring at the seemingly illusory appearance of that huge copper door, Lin Dong's heart slightly sunk. He did not expect that there was indeed someone who had entered already. If he was not wrong, it should be the mysterious woman who stood atop the green lotus.

“Since I’m already here, no matter what, I’ll go in and take a look!”

Before the huge copper door, Lin Dong hesitated for a moment, in the end, he was not resigned to leave. His figure flashed as he made his way into that illusionary door.

As Lin Dong passed through the huge copper door, the scarlet red also completely dissipated. A peaceful stone hall appeared before his eyes.

There were not overly extravagant decorations in this stone hall, and it instead looked rather simple and empty. Lin Dong’s gaze swept one round around the stone hall before concentrating at its center. A stone coffin without a lid stood there and atop the stone coffin, was a ball of light that emitted a vigorous life force.

Lin Dong slightly narrowed his eyes, as he concentrated on that ball of light. Faintly, he could see a dark green heart that seemed to be made of bright energy, which was gently beating. As the dark green heart throbbed, the Yuan Power in the huge hall also seemed to shake.

“Nirvana Heart!”

The small marten’s somewhat astonished voice slowly rang out in Lin Dong’s mind.

“Is that the legendary Nirvana Heart?!”

Lin Dong’s gaze concentrated on that ball of light, his eyes were slightly glazed as he slowly stepped forward.

However, just as Lin Dong’s foot stepped forward, an indifferent voice that was infused with soul energy suddenly rang out in the quiet stone hall.

“This is not a place you can come to, please withdraw...”

Lin Dong’s foot froze, soon after, he slowly lifted his head, his pupils slightly shrinking as he gazed up in the air. There, a green lotus floated, while a calm as a lotus seed and beautiful figure, was currently gazing at him with a pair of clear eyes, which did not have even the slightest ripples on its surface.

Chapter 177: Nirvana Heart

From a short distance away, Lin Dong gazed at the mysterious woman, whose bare lily-white feet stepped on the green lotus. He had finally come to realize her breathtaking beauty. Her clear eyes were like a calm and quiet pool, while her light colored dress lined itself neatly against her almost perfect figure.

This kind of woman was akin to a goddess who had fallen from the heavens into this mundane world, She possessed a stunning beauty, the kind of beauty that would shock one's heart and move one's soul, so beautiful that it was unreal, but, at the same time, it also caused one to feel a sense of being unattainable.

One that should be viewed from afar and never to be touched, like the green lotus below her feet.

As Lin Dong's gaze swept over this mysterious woman, the awe in his eyes lasted for quite a while before it finally faded.

“Little marten, if we join hands, can we beat her?”

“Difficult, this woman looks rather young, but her strength is especially terrifying. It likely does not lose out in the slightest to Lin Langtian. Even if we join hands, we would more likely lose than win.” The small marten's solemn voice quietly sounded out in Lin Dong's mind. If it was at full power, it would naturally not care at all, but now, it did not have the capability to possess such an attitude.

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong let out a bitter laugh. His eyes turned as he suddenly clasped his hands together at the mysterious woman and said: "I am known as Lin Dong, and I do not have the intention of contesting over the treasure with you. I only came in by mistake in hopes of finding out what the Nirvana practitioner had left behind. May I inquire as to what is this young lady's name?"

"Even Lin Langtian and the rest had taken a wrong step and fell into the trap of the great formation. To have come here, you do indeed have some skill." The veil on the mysterious woman's face lightly trembled, her melodious voice was like precious stones tumbling down, and her tone seemed to have a little indescribable flavour. Evidently, she did not believe that Lin Dong's words of entering by mistake. Not only did she have exceptional looks, she was also clearly highly intelligent.

"I am called Ling Qingzhu, since young master Lin Dong does not wish to contend, then Qingzhu will first thank him. Forcefully chasing away someone is not something Qingzhu is willing to do. Thus, I hope young master Lin Dong will not mind."

In the air, Ling Qingzhu bowed towards Lin Dong, however, though her words were especially polite, Lin Dong was able to hear the faint threat behind them.

In response, Lin Dong could only spread out his hands. This woman was too terrifying, and he could not defeat her, hence, he could only play it out as a weakling and act according to the circumstances. Furthermore, Lin Dong also understood that he should not trust her words, he was certain that if he truly dared to

try anything funny, this woman would not be the slightest bit merciful when she struck.

In Yan City, Ziyue was only cold on the surface, while she was considered pretty nice on the inside. Yet, this absolute beauty before his eyes was different, although she looked polite and even sounded gentle, her heart was likely akin to black ice.

This woman was too formidable.

So formidable that even the little marten was rather afraid of her, though this was also due to the current strength it possessed.

Upon seeing Lin Dong's actions, Ling Qingzhu withdrew her gaze. She had determined Lin Dong's strength. Even though she was still a little doubtful on how the latter had managed to enter this place, in the end, she did not care too much about him. She had seen way too many young geniuses before, and hence, she also had the confidence that even if Lin Dong stayed here, with her strength, she would be able to easily subdue him if he made any movements.

Therefore, the fact that she did not forcibly chase out Lin Dong was actually sort of looking down on him from a certain point of view. This was because she believed that no matter what Lin Dong intended to do, it could not possibly affect her at all.

Ling Qingzhu's eyes shifted away from Lin Dong, as she looked towards the ball of light atop the stone coffin. She had likewise seen the Nirvana Heart hidden within it, however, even in the face

of such a treasure, only a few tiny ripples surfaced in her limpid eyes. On her face, no delight was displayed. This kind of control was truly out of the ordinary.

“I did not expect that I would truly find a Nirvana Heart here...”

Ling Qingzhu’s melodious voice held a slight trace of surprise. Soon after, her lily-white hand gently raised, as a green light shot out from the tip of her finger, and transformed into a hand that directly grabbed tightly onto the ball of light.

“Buzz buzz!”

In response to Ling Qingzhu’s grab, the ball of light also quickly started to tremble as it emitted an extremely powerful resistive force.

“Break!”

Upon seeing how intense the resistance of the ball of light was, Ling Qingzhu once again pointed out in the air, as a petal dropped off from the green lotus below her feet, and transformed into a thread of faintly green light that heavily slammed into the ball of light.

“Buzz buzz!”

As the green light attacked, the ball of light immediately shuddered violently, as cracks quietly surfaced one by one. From

the looks of it, it was clearly unable to withstand Ling Qingzhu's attack.

This shuddering did not last for long and the ball of light exploded with a 'bang' sound. As the ball of light exploded, the jade heart within, which was formed by the essence of a Nirvana practitioner's entire life's cultivation, was also revealed in the air.

“Hua hua!”

As this Nirvana Heart was revealed, it was as if a tide of Yuan Power suddenly rose up in the stone hall, and the crisp sounds of water flowing actually sounded out.

Lin Dong lifted his head as he fervently stared at the glowing dark green energy heart. This was the most valuable and precious treasure in the old tomb.

However, the longing in his heart weakened substantially when he saw the beauty atop the green lotus. Lin Dong's eyebrows tightly furrowed, although he truly did not want to admit it, he understood that if he made a move, the chances of success was not high. Moreover, he did not believe that this woman, who was so respectfully treated by even Lin Langtian and the rest, would truly so simply be at ease while he stayed here. Thus, towards his each and every move, the latter would surely be on guard.

In the air, Ling Qingzhu stared at the dark green Nirvana Heart which floated before her eyes. Her lily-white hand lightly grasped, as several green lights shot out from the green lotus below her feet,

and shined on the Nirvana Heart.

“Ch ch!”

As the green lights shined on it, waves of white mist suddenly rose up from the Nirvana Heart. Meanwhile, signs of melting appeared on its surface.

“Swish swish!”

Lin Qingzhu did not find this scene unexpected, her empty hand gently raised, as more and more green lights swept out from the green lotus, before finally focusing above the Nirvana Heart.

As an increasing number of green lights gathered, the speed at which the Nirvana Heart melted also rapidly increased. A few minutes later, the Nirvana Heart had actually been completely transformed into a ball of emerald green liquid.

This liquid slowly flowed in the air, faintly emitting an extremely frightening undulation. At the same time, it also exuded an exceedingly strong pressure.

Under this pressure, Lin Dong's body seemed to be several times heavier, such that even the Yuan Power circulating in Lin Dong's body also became sluggish. Immediately, his expression turned extremely solemn.

This kind of pressure, which caused Lin Dong to feel as if he was

carrying a mountain, did not seem to hinder Ling Qingzhu at all. Her clear eyes concentrated on the ball of emerald green liquid, soon after, she stretched out a white jade-like hand, and gracefully and gently lifted up a corner of her veil. Slightly opening her mouth, the emerald green ball of liquid in mid-air whizzed into her rosy red mouth.

“Creak!”

Lin Dong did not have the time to admire the glimpse of Ling Qingzhu gracefully lifting a corner of her veil. When he saw that this woman had actually swallowed the Nirvana Heart in one go without the slightest hesitation, his fist involuntarily tightly clenched, and his gaze continuously flickered as he assessed the pros and cons of making a move now, and his chances of success and failure...

This flickering gaze only lasted for mere moments before it finally became calm again. Lin Dong's expression was a little ugly, and his eyes were filled with unwillingness. After weighing his options, he still rationally chose to not to make a move. Perhaps, it was due to his Mental Energy, he kept sensing that the woman in mid-air was observing his every move.

“Forget it, though this Nirvana Heart is valuable, it is not worth for me to lose my life over it.”

Lin Dong's helplessly consoled himself in his heart. Although he was still a little dispirited, he did not have an alternative. The situation was not favorable, and there were no benefits if he chose to fight.

While Lin Dong made the decision to give up, Ling Qingzhu, who had already gulped down the liquid formed from the Nirvana Heart, suddenly turned around. Her eyes gazed at the former, and soon after, an indifferent laughter sounded out: “Young master Lin Dong is indeed one who keeps his promises. Next, I will be refining the energy of the Nirvana Heart, I do hope that the young master will not disturb me.”

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong let out a hollow laugh, however, he still nodded his head in the end.

Ling Qingzhu also did not care how fake or real Lin Dong’s smile expression was. She gracefully sat down on the green lotus as her beautiful eyes slowly closed. Soon after, the green lotus emitted a layer of green light, which wrapped around her entire body.

“Ai, truly such horrible luck!”

Upon seeing this, Lin Dong could not help but curse in a low voice. He had painstakingly reached this final area, but in the end, he did not manage to obtain anything at all. Compared to his huge hauls previously, it was practically two extremes.

Cursing was after all just cursing, Lin Dong could do nothing about it. Ling Qingzhu’s green lotus was obviously an extremely powerful treasure, plus, the latter was still very clearly being on guard against him.

Thus, after cursing out, Lin Dong’s gaze could only sweep across

the stone hall. When he saw the stone coffin, he hesitated for a moment before slowly walking over. Since he was already here, he might as well see if there were any other treasures.

When he reached the stone coffin, he saw a skeleton peacefully lying within, which should be the Nirvana stage practitioner. He looked about for a while, and found that besides this skeleton, there was nothing else, to which he immediately sighed in disappointment.

“Elder, I have taken quite a few of your things. This young one will just have to pay my respects.” As he cast a glance at the skeleton, Lin Dong helplessly said. After which, he bowed towards the skeleton.

“Oh?”

However, just as Lin Dong was about to raise his body, his eyes suddenly discovered that there seemed to be some small words on one side of the coffin walls. Immediately, he hastily concentrated on it.

“During my life, I’ve advanced to the Nirvana stage through the power of Yin and Yang. What I’ve left behind requires Yin and Yang to understand. And if Yin and Yang do not come together, one would definitely be destroyed.”

This short sentence caused Lin Dong to be taken aback. He mulled over it for quite some time with his eyebrows furrowed, only then did he suddenly understand the meaning behind these

words. Immediately, he looked towards the Ling Qingzhu in mid-air, as his face instantly turned extremely interesting and strange.

Chapter 178: Forcefully Seizing Yang Energy

This so-called Yin and Yang energy naturally did not refer to the Yin and Yang energy from heaven and earth, but rather the male Yang and the female Yin. Put nicely, it would be called Yin and Yang energy, while bluntly put, it would be called twin training energy. A more pleasant name for the people who utilized this method, would be joyful grandmasters, while an uglier term would be corrupt practitioners, and an uglier term would be... pervert.

Hence, when Lin Dong discovered that the owner of this old tomb had actually relied on this method to advance to the Nirvana stage, his face turned immensely exciting. Then, he turned to look at Ling Qingzhu, who was sitting in mid-air on her green lotus.

From these small carvings, Lin Dong knew that this old tomb's owner had done it on purpose. After all, who would bother to find these insignificant scribbles on the corner of the coffin. Furthermore, if most people did not understand the mystery hidden within these words and started refining the Nirvana Heart, then the final outcome would be as written on that coffin's wall; they would be destroyed.

Even in death, the owner of this old tomb wanted to torment others, this truly made one speechless.

Under Lin Dong's gaze, Ling Qingzhu, who was seated on the green lotus, still seemed fairly calm and the so-called destruction of her body did not occur. This caused Lin Dong to somewhat doubt the authenticity of the words in the coffin.

“Don’t tell me these words are purposely left as a joke?” Lin Dong was somewhat disappointed as he mumbled.

“Bang!”

However, just as Lin Dong finished mumbling, the sound of an energy shockwave suddenly echoed out in the air. He hurriedly lifted his head to look, only to find that a violent energy shockwave had suddenly appeared from the middle of the green lotus, and, the origin of that shockwave was Ling Qingzhu’s body.

“As expected!”

When he saw this sight, Lin Dong’s heart jumped.

Inside the green lotus, Ling Qingzhu exposed snow-white skin instantly became slightly reddish. Meanwhile, an extremely pure Yin energy continuously gushed forth from her body, causing ripples to form on the screen of light from the green lotus.

Right now, Ling Qingzhu evidently realized that there was something amiss, as a cold look flowed in her eyes. Lifting her thin hands, an extremely strong Yuan Power exploded forth from her body, as she tried to forcefully suppress the devastating pure Yin Energy.

The green lotus flickered, as waves of violent energy unendingly gushed out from Ling Qingzhu’s body. One could tell that her body had descended into a fierce internal battle.

Below, when Lin Dong saw that this Ling Qingzhu actually managed to temporarily suppress the power of even the Nirvana Heart, he involuntarily licked his lips. This woman's strength was truly terrifying indeed.

However, even though they were in a stalemate, it was only temporary. After all, the Nirvana Heart was the essence of a Nirvana stage practitioner. Thus, regardless of how amazing Ling Qingzhu was, there was still a wide gap between them. Hence, the battle between these two forces only lasted for several minutes, before the light screen of the green lotus was forcefully broken apart, and Ling Qingzhu's body was shrouded by a layer of an extremely pure Yin energy.

Normally, this would be extremely beneficial to Ling Qingzhu. However, if one absorbs too much of this kind of thing, it would become a lethal poison. If one was unable to dispel this pure Yin energy and allow it to accumulate too long in one's body, it would transform into pure Yin fire and burn one's body from within.

“Shameless one!”

Atop the green lotus, Ling Qingzhu's body suddenly stood up. Her voice was icy, and she waved her lily-white hand, as an extremely formidable Yuan Power shot out and turned into a giant palm, which ruthlessly smashed the stone coffin of the Nirvana stage practitioner.

“Boom!”

A loud sound rang out, as the stone coffin and the skeleton within were directly reduced to dust by Ling Qingzhu. When he saw this sight, the corners of Lin Dong's mouth began to twitch. This woman was indeed no virtuous soul. More moments after she had obtained his Nirvana Heart, she flipped and destroyed his remains.

Lin Dong very cautiously backed off. Right now, this woman seemed to have become a little crazy. If he went forward now, he would probably be smashed to death.

Right now, both of them did not realize that there was a faintly flickering red light hidden within the debris of the stone coffin.

After she levelled the stone coffin with her palm, Ling Qingzhu's wondrous figure once again began to shudder. She could feel a ball of fire gradually forming inside her body. This flame was not scorching hot, but instead was filled with an endless icy chilling cold. In response to that flame, the vigorous Yuan Power inside her body began to show signs of freezing.

Based on her current strength, it was still quite difficult for her to match up to the remnants of a Nirvana stage practitioner.

A desperate glint flashed across Ling Qingzhu's eyes. Moments later, she gritted her silver-like teeth, as she turned towards the only other person around.

When he saw Ling Qingzhu's gaze, Lin Dong's face slightly

trembled. As he slowly stepped back, he forced a smile and said: “Miss Qingzhu, I believe that I should not linger here any longer. Let me make a move first. Goodbye.” After he spoke, he directly escaped towards the huge bronze door.

When she saw Lin Dong so swiftly running away, Ling Qingzhu was so enraged that she let out a laugh. Why didn't you be more tactful and leave previously?

Unfortunately, Lin Dong's wish to escape was not granted. Before he could leap out through that huge bronze door, an extremely powerful force gushed forth from behind him and heavily slammed against that huge bronze door, causing it to shut tightly.

When he saw the tightly shut bronze door, Lin Dong could only turn around. He stared at Ling Qingzhu who was floating nearby on her green lotus, as his eyebrows furrowed: “What do you want? It's not my fault you got duped.”

“Do you know what's wrong with the Nirvana Heart?” Upon hearing these words, a cold glint flashed across Ling Qingzhu's eyes, as her beautiful voice suddenly turned ice-cold.

“It was written in the coffin. However, I only discovered it after you ate the Nirvana Heart. Did you not notice it?” Lin Dong hurriedly clarified. Right now, this woman was not as friendly as before. If he said the wrong thing, perhaps she might directly launch a palm attack at him.

Ling Qingzhu face was in flux, evidently extremely enraged. She

naturally did not bother to check for any messages on the coffin. If she had bothered to do so, she would not be in such a sorry state.

“Young master Lin Dong.”

As Ling Qingzhu’s facial expression was in flux, the pure Yin energy surrounding her intensified. Staring at Lin Dong, her originally cold voice suddenly turned much gentler.

“What is it?” If anyone received such luxurious treatment from this fairy-like beauty, their bones would probably turn to jelly. However, Lin Dong felt something was amiss, as he cautiously replied.

“Ling Qingzhu wishes to borrow the Yang energy inside your body. After this issue is resolved, I shall give you a fair compensation.” Ling Qingzhu softly said.

“That’s no good. My master told me that before I reached the Nirvana stage, I must remain a virgin!” Lin Dong released a hollow laugh as he said.

Lin Dong was obviously bullshitting. He did not have any mentors, nor was he instructed to remain a virgin before he reached the Nirvana stage. Therefore, his actual intention was to reject her.

“Young master does not need to worry. We do not require intercourse to obtain Yang energy. Qingzhu has other means.”

When she heard Lin Dong's words, Ling Qingzhu's lily-white hands slightly clenched. Soon after, she chuckled in an indifferent manner as she said.

“Lin Dong, be careful. This woman plans to forcefully seize the Yang energy from your body. If she is successful, this will hurt your body's foundations and leave severe repercussions.” The small marten's solemn voice suddenly rang out inside Lin Dong's mind.

“Heh heh, if this was done through the usual means, both parties will benefit. However, this lady is obviously too virtuous, as even young geniuses like Lin Langtian would find it difficult to enter her eyes. Therefore, she would naturally not utilise such means with you. Don't dream that she would give you her pure body...”

“Dammit, this woman is truly vicious!”

When he heard the small marten's words, Lin Dong's scalp turned numb as he replied without the slightest bit of hesitation: “Miss Ling Qingzhu, please look for someone else. I believe that I am unsuitable. After all, there is still Lin Langtian and the rest outside...”

“You!”

When she heard these words, Ling Qingzhu's expression turned furious. Lin Dong's words were too much...

“Young master Lin Dong, Qingzhu has promised. Regardless of how great your loss, I will compensate you several fold.” Even though she was angry, Ling Qingzhu was obviously cultured. Even at this juncture, she still gently inhaled as she tried her best to soften her tone.

“Not interested, goodbye!”

Lin Dong ignored her words. He cupped his fist before immediately dashing backwards. At the same time, a Mysterious Ice Sword appeared below his feet, while the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd appeared in his hand.

“Bang!”

While Lin Dong retreated, Little Flame dashed forth and heavily slammed against that large bronze door. Its powerful force directly and slowly pushed open the tightly shut bronze door.

When she saw this sight, Ling Qingzhu’s eyes turned ice-cold. Based on her current condition, she could not afford to wait any longer. Immediately, she waved her lily-white hand, as several green lights of rope were fired from the green lotus below her feet. Just like a heavenly net, they flew towards Lin Dong.

“Since young master Lin Dong does not wish to cooperate, please excuse Qingzhu.”

When he saw Ling Qingzhu finally make her move, Lin Dong’s

facial expression slightly sunk. The Yuan Power inside his body gushed forth, as a dark red glow erupted from the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd. The halberd flashed, and heavily thrust at the incoming green ropes.

“Ding ding!”

Sparks erupted in mid-air each time he collided against the green ropes, while Lin Dong could feel an extremely powerful resulting force violently gushing forth. Even though it was mostly absorbed by the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd, the remaining impact still jolted Lin Dong backwards, causing a sweet sensation to gush up in his throat. It seemed like the gap between him and Ling Qingzhu was too large after all.

“Swoosh swoosh!”

In mid-air, the green shadow danced across the sky. Unknowingly, it had turned into green flashes and completely surrounded Lin Dong, restricting his range of movements.

“Ch!”

As his movements were restricted, Lin Dong was unable to completely utilize his Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd. Due to a slip in his concentration, these green ropes dashed forward and directly tied Lin Dong up.

After she subdued Lin Dong, Ling Qingzhu slowly approached

him atop her green lotus. As she stared at Lin Dong's enraged expression, she did not speak. Extending her jade-like finger, she gently tapped on the latter's forehead. Then, Lin Dong immediately felt that something important within his body was about to be forcefully taken away.

“Small marten, let's join hands against her!”

With a maniacal glint in his eyes, Lin Dong roared in his mind. At the same time, he was prepared to use the mid-tier Symbol Puppet that he had obtained earlier. Even if he had to use a huge chunk of his Pure Yuan pills, he could not let this woman steal his Yang energy...

“Wait!”

With regards to Lin Dong's roar, the small marten suddenly replied.

“How can I wait. If I wait any longer, I will be sucked dry!” When he heard this reply, Lin Dong was so angry that he nearly vomited blood.

“Oh, I did not want to witness such a scene...”

Just as the small marten's words fell, a slightly playful voice suddenly echoed out in the empty stone hall, causing Lin Dong and Ling Qingzhu to both be taken aback. As they hurriedly turned to look, they saw that above that stone coffin debris, a small red dot

was hovering in mid-air, before it finally transformed into an illusory figure and smiled at the two of them.

Chapter 179: Master of the Tomb

The glowing shadow was in an illusionary state and evidently did not possess substance. It looked to be about thirty years in age, appearing extremely young, with his lustrous face and scholarly look.

“Who are you?!”

When she saw this person who had suddenly appeared, Ling Qingzhu’s long and shapely eyebrows slightly knitted together as she said in a low voice.

“Hehe, such a violent woman, smashing my bones and stone coffin to bits and still asking who I am.” Upon hearing these words, the scholarly man could not help but slightly smirk as he said.

After hearing this, Lin Dong’s and Ling Qingzhu’s expressions abruptly changed: “You are the master of the tomb?”

“Hehe, no need to be nervous, I have indeed truly died. This is only remnant Yuan spirit, plus, I was sealed within the stone coffin, If you did not destroy the stone coffin, I would never have appeared.” The scholarly man chuckled as he replied.

“Shameless one, to think that an elder would actually use such despicable means!” Ling Qingzhu bit her teeth, as the rage within her clear eyes gushed forth.

“Matters between man and woman are originally in accordance to the Yin and Yang of heaven and earth, how can you call it shameless. As long as a couple are harmonious and compliment each other, would that not be better?” The scholarly man said.

“Nonsense, I will settle this problem myself!” Ling Qingzhu replied.

“Your method is not a good thing to this youngster.” The scholarly man replied in a indifferent tone.

“I will definitely repay him, no need for you to meddle!”

“I cannot do that, I’ve set up this hurdle not to cause harm to others, but for the beauty of becoming an adult.”

A strange smile surfaced on the scholarly man’s face. His gaze swept over Lin Dong’s and Ling Qingzhu’s bodies, as he slightly smiled and said: “Young chap, you are truly fortunate, even I have never seen such an absolute beauty before, you must treat her well in future.”

An odd look filled Lin Dong’s face, this guy...did he have a problem with his head?

“What do you plan on doing?” Upon hearing his words, Lin Qingzhu’s expression turned frosty, and her voice also became even more icy.

“The beauty of becoming an adult.”

The scholarly man slightly chuckled, soon after, his hand pointed in the air, as the Nirvana Heart that was absorbed into Ling Qingzhu's body thoroughly exploded. An extremely pure Yin energy was like a tide as it gushed forth. In a flash, it completely froze the Yuan Power in Ling Qingzhu's body.

As the Yuan Power in Ling Qingzhu's body was frozen, a feeling of weakness immediately appeared. Meanwhile, a bright light also erupted from the green lotus below her feet, desperately trying to dispel the pure Yin energy in Ling Qingzhu's body.

Sensing the changes in her body, an alarmed look finally surfaced in Ling Qingzhu's limpid eyes.

“Oh? Possessing such a treasure, looks like your background is not weak. However, to a dead man like me, it means nothing.” Upon seeing that the green lotus had actually resisted the spread of the pure Yin energy, the scholarly man was also a little astonished. Soon after, he laughed as his finger once again pointed out in the air. A ray of light shot out and straightaway wrapped around the green lotus, completely separating it from Ling Qingzhu.

“Buzz buzz!”

The green lotus frantically struggled as it shot out rays of light. However, it was still unable to escape the scholarly man's seal.

As the green lotus was sealed, the green ropes of light that tied up Lin Dong also completely dissipated. Once he had escaped from his bindings, he rapidly retreated without hesitation. He did not expect that, in the end, even an already dead Nirvana practitioner would show himself. It was best not to linger too long in such a scary place.

“Hehe, little one, I’m giving you something good, why are you running.” Upon seeing Lin Dong back away, the scholarly man merely let out a laugh in response.

“Heh heh, this young one understands the elder’s good intentions, however, I truly do not want this thing.” Lin Dong let out a hollow laugh. After taking a look at Ling Qingzhu, who had been suppressed such that she could not even lift a finger, he was able to guess what this scholarly man was up to. Perhaps, doing it with such a beauty was every man’s dream, but, after that...the troubles that followed would not be small.

“No one can reject the things I want to give.” The scholarly man smiled as he shook his head. His finger pointed out as Lin Dong’s body froze, before once again floating towards the struggling Ling Qingzhu against his control.

“Oh, I’m still missing something to start this.”

As he gazed at Ling Qingzhu, who was glaring at Lin Dong as they faced each other, the scholarly man rubbed his chin. With a flick of his finger, two pink lights swept forth, before finally tunnelling

into Lin Dong's and Ling Qingzhu's bodies.

Once the pink light entered his body, Lin Dong felt his body instantly start to heat up. A nefarious fire appeared in his lower abdomen and quickly spread across his entire body.

While Lin Dong's body was burning, Lin Qingzhu's exposed snow-white skin also started to turn especially red. Her originally limpid eyes were also struggling as they were gradually filled with an erotic mist. Her body was practically filled with the pure Yin energy, and in front of her, Lin Dong's body emitted pure Yang energy. This kind of feeling was as if an extremely cold person saw a warm stove, and could not help but leap towards it.

“Shameless one!”

As her rationality gradually faded, Ling Qingzhu's marvelous figure continued to tremble, but, she still gritted her teeth as her voice softly sounded out.

“Everything happens for a reason. If you did not destroy the stone coffin, I would not appear. However, since I have already appeared, you will naturally have to follow my rules...” The scholarly man had a smile on his face as he spoke.

“Elder, this is no fun, I think it's better to let me go.” Lin Dong persistently endured.

The scholarly man had his hands behind his back and a small

smile on his face, but he did not say anything in response.

“God damnit, this is too much! Small marten! Small marten!”

Upon seeing this, Lin Dong could do nothing but cry out in his mind. However, the small marten which usually appeared had completely disappeared at this time. No matter how Lin Dong cried, it did not say even half a word in response. This angered Lin Dong so much that he almost saw stars. This guy was too unreliable, such a let down at this critical moment.

However, while Lin Dong was doing his best to resist the burning nefarious flame in his body, a slim lotus-root like arm suddenly touched his neck. A soft and tender body that did not seem to have any bones was like a water snake as it stuck itself into Lin Dong's embrace, while a fragrance gushed into up his nostrils.

“Boom!”

The fragrance and the softness in his arms was like a fuse that had been ignited, causing Lin Dong's eyes to momentarily turn red. He bitterly endured as his mind grew increasingly weak.

“Lin Dong, if you dare to touch me, when I regain my senses, I will definitely take your life!”

The beauty lay powerless in Lin Dong's embrace. The eyes of the originally unattainable goddess was now like silk, as she transformed into an enchanting demoness who could steal one's

soul. She faintly panted as she leaned against Lin Dong, but a soft voice still sounded out from under her veil.

Upon seeing that this woman still dared to utter such fierce words even at this moment, Lin Dong was first taken aback, but soon after, he became furious. Once he recalled that woman had previously ignored whether he lived and died in order to forcefully seize his Yang energy, he became so angry that he could not forgive her.

“I will make sure you see how I touch you today!”

His rage burned, as his eyes turned scarlet red. His rationality had been directly destroyed by Ling Qingzhu’s words. With a roar, he tossed aside the fear in his heart and reached out his hand, tearing away the veil on Ling Qingzhu’s face with a single swipe.

“Ch!”

The veil slowly fell, and the shockingly gorgeous face below was finally revealed.

Even though he already knew that she would be extremely beautiful under the veil, in that moment, Lin Dong still lost his breath, so much so that even his already faded rationality, once again temporarily surfaced because of this incomparably alarming beauty.

“A glance can cause a city to be ruined, and a second glance the

entire kingdom. Such an exceptional beauty.”

Even the scholarly man softly praised out in this moment. Soon after, he slightly smiled as his hand gently raised. Rays of light swept forth, before transforming into a thick ball of light, which directly wrapped around Lin Dong and Ling Qingzhu.

“Little one, the fact that you’ve obtained the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd, makes me feel that our meeting was fated. Since you’ve paid your respects to me, let me send you another gift.” The ball of light condensed, and the scholarly man once again chuckled. A beam of light shot out from the tip of his finger before entering the ball of light and into Lin Dong’s mind.

“Hehe, I can still enjoy the beauty of becoming an adult even after death, truly marvelous indeed...”

After finishing his words, the scholarly man finally nodded his head in satisfaction. Letting out a hearty laughter to the skies, his body slowly burst open and transformed into numerous specks of light which scattered away.

As the scholarly man disappeared, the stone hall became completely quiet. Only the massive ball of light was left as it floated in mid air. Faintly, palpitating thoughts of love quietly emitted from within.

The two fuzzy figures tightly joined together in the ball of light, like Yin and Yang, and the mixture of water and milk.

The silence in the stone hall lasted for quite some time, before finally being broken by a soft ‘ka cha’ sound. On the ball of light, lines of cracks swiftly formed.

“Bang!”

The cracks quickly spread, and in a few short moments, it exploded with a loud bang!

As the ball of light transformed into specks of light which filled the sky, two figures also quickly swept out from within.

The young man’s strong and healthy figure landed on the ground, completely dressing himself while still in mid-air. Once he landed, he did not hesitate in the slightest as the tip of his foot pushed off the ground and directly transformed into a blurred figure, which rushed towards the huge copper door.

“Little Flame, quickly leave!”

Lin Dong was evidently extremely loyal. At this time, he did not forget to warn Little Flame, which was lying on the ground while waiting for him.

After hearing his voice, Little Flame also swiftly leaped forward, before quickly fleeing.

Dozens of meters were crossed in the blink of an eye. However, just as Lin Dong was about to escape through the huge copper

door, an ice-cold aura of death was like a demoness, as it appeared before him.

“Swish!”

The beautiful figure appeared and likewise did not say anything, as her lily-white hand raised. A green light filled with a formidable and cold murderous aura swiftly shot out!

Chapter 180: Trouble

A green light containing killing intent violently shot towards Lin Dong. Slightly astonished, the tip of his foot pushed off the ground, as his figure once again rapidly retreated. Meanwhile, with a flick of his mind, Mental Energy gathered before him to form a defensive layer.

“Tch!”

The Mental Energy defence did not achieve any significant effect, as the green light practically tore it apart in an instant, before charging at Lin Dong’s throat without losing any speed.

However, though it did not achieve much, in that short period, the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd was once again summoned in Lin Dong’s hand. Yuan Power gushed forth, and the halberd viciously whizzed through the air to heavily clash against the green light.

“Bang!”

An energy shockwave erupted from the collision, as a strong gale swept outwards. Lin Dong’s body was also jolted back dozens of steps, as he jabbed his ancient halberd onto the ground, before slowly stabilizing his body.

“Perfect Yuan Dan stage?”

Having stabilized himself, amazement suddenly flashed across Lin Dong's eyes. This was because, he had discovered that his current strength had unknowingly rose dramatically. Based on his guess, the current him had mysteriously made a breakthrough to the perfect Yuan Dan level.

Furthermore, he was faintly able to sense that his body had also grown much stronger. Or else, given his previous level of strength, he would have at least spat out a mouthful of blood on the spot after receiving Ling Qingzhu's attack.

Of course, Lin Dong also understood that this did not mean he possessed the power to face off against Ling Qingzhu. The latter's strength was still too frightening, if he faced her head on, he would definitely not be her match. After all, the gap between the Yuan Dan stage and the Creation stage was not so easily overcome!

With his body stabilized, Lin Dong's eyes looked towards the huge bronze door. There, a green lotus hovered, and atop the green lotus, Ling Qingzhu's entire being was emitting a cold murderous aura, while extreme rage and coldness gushed out from her clear eyes.

"Lecher, I will definitely take your life today!" Ling Qingzhu stared at Lin Dong, her melodious voice was so cold that it cut into the bone.

"It's not my fault, everything was done by that guy!" As he gazed at Ling Qingzhu, who was like a piece of black ice, Lin Dong's scalp began to turn a little numb. His gaze swept across the stone hall, but did not find even the slightest trace of that scholarly man.

Immediately, he could not help but curse out in his heart.

“You have to pay the price for disgracing my purity.” Ling Qingzhu’s eyes were ice-cold. She admittedly knew who the ringleader of this affair was, but this was no reason for her to so easily let Lin Dong go!

She was just and proud by nature, over the years, she had seen countless young and outstanding talents, and there were no geniuses or monsters she had not seen before. Yet, even these people were unable to draw even the slightest bit of her attention. However, she had actually lost her purity in such a rundown place today!

Moreover, her partner, was an ordinary and unremarkable guy!

In the past, this kind of person would perhaps be unable to draw even a glance from her. Yet, such a person had now directly taken away her purity!

At this thought, even with Ling Qingzhu’s temperament, an uncontrollable humiliation and murderous intent rose up in her heart.

“I will erect a grave for you after I killed you.”

Green lights slowly blossomed from the green lotus below Ling Qingzhu’s feet. Soon after, the lights flashed, and her body strangely disappeared.

“Tch!”

Upon seeing that Ling Qingzhu had strangely disappeared, Lin Dong's pupils suddenly shrunk. Powerful Mental Energy immediately swept forth, and in the next moment, the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd in his hand seemed to bring a scarlet wind with it, tearing apart the air, as it fiercely flicked upwards.

The ancient halberd struck, but only managed to pierce an after image. After seeing that Ling Qingzhu's strength was actually so frightening, Lin Dong's expression drastically changed. He grasped tightly onto the shaft of the halberd with both hands, as his body abruptly started to spin. Like a storm, a formidable gale enshrouded his body.

“Wuu wuu!”

The halberd flashed, as powerful winds left rows of deep gashes on the ground.

“Ding!”

Images of halberds danced in the skies, suddenly, a slender and white jade-like hand directly reached into the storm. The lily-white hand clenched as the halberds which filled the skies instantly dissipated, while the shaft of the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd was directly grabbed by Ling Qingzhu. No matter how much strength Lin Dong exerted, he was unable to budge it at all.

With a lily-white hand restraining the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd, Ling Qingzhu's exquisite figure flickered, as her body gracefully approached Lin Dong. Her other hand was as light as a feather as it swept towards Lin Dong's chest, the green light encircling it giving off a deadly killing intent.

As he felt the extremely formidable green light on Ling Qingzhu's palm, Lin Dong's heart skipped a beat. However, just as he was about to use all his power to fight back, the tightly shut huge bronze door behind them suddenly burst open with a bang, transforming into countless fragments which shot outwards, causing several deep holes in the ground.

While the huge bronze door burst apart, a few figures also swept out as quick as lightning. After which, they quickly took in the scene before their eyes.

Because Lin Dong's back was facing the huge bronze door, the few people who entered seemed to see Ling Qingzhu closely snuggling against Lin Dong. This scene directly caused the three originally extremely calm and collected individuals to be dumbstruck.

Ling Qingzhu also sensed the huge bronze door being blown apart, immediately, the terrifying green light on her lily-white hand weakened substantially, before landing on Lin Dong's chest.

“Bang!”

A huge force hit his chest, as Lin Dong's body was directly blown backwards. However, due to the huge increase in his strength, his body once flipped in mid-air, before healthily landing on the ground. He swiftly retreated several steps, as he tightly grasped the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd in his hand, while vigilantly staring at Ling Qingzhu.

“Miss Qingzhu, this is?”

Gazing at the scene, the trio who had entered were a little taken aback. Soon after, one of them slightly smiled as he asked.

“Nothing much, I was only having a brief exchange with this young master.” Currently, the murderous aura and coldness in Ling Qingzhu's eyes had practically disappeared in an instant, as she regained the seemingly gentle demeanor from before, while her tone was tinged with a deep feeling of repelling one a thousand miles.

The trio which had entered was naturally Ling Langtian, Wang Yan and Qin Shi, who were all previously stuck within the great formation. After they heard Ling Qingzhu's words, their gazes turned towards Lin Dong, as their eyebrows slightly furrowed. Naturally, they could tell that Lin Dong was only at the perfect Yuan Dan stage. Compared to Ling Qingzhu, the difference between them was huge, why the need to exchange blows with him?

The trio's gazes were tinged with an interrogatory flavour as they looked at Lin Dong, before they withdrew their gazes. The latter's looks and strength were unable to make them feel even the

slightest bit threatened.

“Miss Qingzhu, from the looks of it, I’m afraid the Nirvana Heart already has an owner right?” Ling Langtian took a look at the empty stone hall, as he gently chuckled and said.

“The three of you were a step too late.” Ling Qingzhu winked as she softly replied.

“Unfortunate. It’s all because of that formation.”

Upon hearing this, Wang Yan felt helpless, soon after, he acted magnanimous as he let out a hearty laughter: “However, the fact that miss Qingzhu was able to obtain it also means that she is capable. Although this Nirvana Heart has a chance to give one the potential to reach the Nirvana stage, the three of us do not mind. Even without it, advancing to the Nirvana stage is merely a matter of time.”

“Then many thanks to young master Wang Yan.” Ling Qingzhu softly chuckled. Though the veil covered her face, its beautiful contours were still astonishing, causing the fire in Wang Yan’s eyes to burn even brighter.

“Hai, since the Nirvana Heart already has an owner, I will take my leave first.” Upon seeing Ling Qingzhu and the top members of the Great Yan Empire’s younger generation chatting cheerfully together. Lin Dong did not know why but he felt a little unwell in his heart, immediately, he spoke out and planned to leave.

Lin Langtian, Wang Yan and Qin Shi did not take much notice of Lin Dong. A mere perfect Yuan Dan stage was not enough to draw their attention.

“Stop!”

However, though the trio ignored him, Ling Qingzhu bit her teeth as she shouted out.

“Oh?”

Upon seeing this normally elegant and calm Ling Qingzhu unexpectedly forget herself in this manner, Lin Langtian and the other two were stunned. Soon after, their eyebrows once again furrowed, as they gazes shifted towards Lin Dong. They were not fools, Ling Qingzhu’s reaction was somewhat different from usual.

“Miss Qingzhu, is there anything else?” Upon seeing that this woman still refused to let him go, Lin Dong could only halt in his step as he somewhat helplessly asked.

Upon hearing this, Ling Qingzhu paused. At this time, she could not possibly speak like before right? However, this woman was intelligent, she only paused a little before her indifferent voice sounded out: “The young master’s martial art is exquisite, previously, we have yet to decide the victor. Qingzhu will follow you out and find a place to continue our duel, how does that sound?”

“Young master Ling Langtian, Qingzhu will first bid her farewells. If I have time, I will come and visit again.” After saying these words, Ling Qingzhu bowed towards Ling Langtian and the other two, before she slowly walked towards Lin Dong under the trio’s astonished gazes.

As they stared at Ling Qingzhu’s elegant figure, Ling Langtian’s and the other two’s eyebrows knitted together even more tightly. At this time, even an idiot could tell that something must have happened between Lin Dong and the former. Exquisite martial art, how exquisite could a brat at the Yuan Dan stage be? How could he possibly compare to the three of them, who were the elite among the Great Yan Empire’s younger generation?

Among the trio, the most prideful Wang Yan’s eyes could not help but slightly narrow. He stared at Lin Dong’s back, as he adjusted the jade ring on his thumb.

“I admit defeat.” Upon seeing Ling Qingzhu gracefully approaching, Lin Dong hastily said.

However, Ling Qingzhu’s eyes were ice-cold, ignoring him as she walked to Lin Dong’s side and coldly said: “Go.”

Lin Dong bitterly laughed, his gaze slightly flickered, as thoughts of how to escape swiftly spun in his mind.

While Lin Dong’s gaze was flickering, another group of figures rushed in from the opened bronze door. At the head of the group, was Wang Pan, Lin Ke-er and the rest.

When Wang Pan and the rest entered, they quickly spotted Lin Dong. A sneer flashed across the former's face as they quickly swarmed towards Wang Yan, before softly speaking into his ear.

Upon witnessing this scene, Lin Dong's expression slightly sunk. He knew that these guys were definitely talking about him.

“Go!”

While Lin Dong's expression turned gloomy, beside him, Ling Qingzhu's indifferent voice once again sounded out.

“Wait a moment.”

However, just as Lin Dong planned to leave this place first, a calm voice suddenly rang out behind him as expected.

“It's here...”

After hearing this voice, Lin Dong slowly exhaled in his heart. In the end, he was unable to avoid these troubles.

Chapter 181: Today's Matter will be Repaid a Hundredfold

Wang Yan's voice rang out in the stone hall, as Lin Dong's footsteps came to a stop. He turned around and looked at the former, before casting a glance towards the sneering Wang Pan and the rest behind, furrowing his eyebrows as he said: "Is something the matter?"

"You've snatched my Wang Clan's Soul Treasure, do you really think you can just leave like this?" Wang Yan replied in an indifferent voice.

Upon hearing these words, Lin Dong's expression darkened. He could not help but sneer as he said: "Distinguished one, this is really too laughable. Items from the tomb are originally ownerless. Since when did they become your Wang Clan's property? If that is so, won't everyone who managed to obtain treasures here have to return them to you?"

"Humph, kid, don't think of quibbling. That Soul Treasure was obtained by me first, but it was snatched away through your sneak attack!" Wang Pan coldy snorted as he said.

Upon seeing that this person would actually be so shameless, Lin Dong was so angry that he let out a laugh. This guy's ability to turn black to white was truly marvelous.

This sudden change also caused the crowd to understand that there some gaps between what the Wang Clan and Lin Dong had

said. With regards to what had actually led to this, the crowd really did not care, because everyone knew that the Wang Clan was usually arrogant and domineering. Since Lin Dong was alone today, given Wang Pan's and the rest's characters, they would definitely not let this issue rest so easily.

“Miss Qingzhu, this is a grudge between my Wang Clan and this person.” Wang Yan casually looked towards Lin Dong before declaring this to Ling Qingzhu.

Though he did not finish his words, Ling Qingzhu understood his intention. Without saying anything, she slowly took two steps back, indicating that she would not interfere.

Lin Dong did not find her actions unexpected. The fact that Ling Qingzhu did not stab him at this time was already an extremely excellent thing. Hoping that she would step in to help was practically impossible.

Ling Langtian and Qin Shi merely gazed at the scene from a detached point of view.

“Wang Pan, you are talking rubbish, that Soul Treasure was originally obtained by Lin Dong, since when did he mount a sneak attack on you? All of us are able to testify that everything you've said is a lie.” While the crowd was waiting to see a good show, a charming voice suddenly rang out. The crowd turned, only to find that it was Lin Ke-er.

Upon seeing Lin Ke-er open her mouth to speak, Wang Pan's

expression slightly changed, while Wang Yan's eyebrows furrowed a little. He did not expect that the Lin Clan members would actually step in.

“Ke-er, stop talking nonsense, and don't interfere in other family's matters!” To one side, Lin Langtian's coldly said. His eyebrows had also furrowed when he saw that Lin Ke-er had actually spoken out.

“Big brother Lin Langtian, Lin Dong is also considered as a member of my Lin Clan, how can you call it other family's matters.” Lin Ke-er hastily said. Wang Yan was usually very bossy, today, this matter may only be solved if Lin Langtian stepped in.

“I have never seen such a person in the clan, which family does he hail from?” Lin Langtian was taken aback, his eyebrow knitted together as he looked at Lin Dong.

“He...he is from a branch family.” Lin Ke-er bit her teeth and said. She knew that in the eyes of the clan members, the status of the branch families were extremely low, so much so that many would not even acknowledge that the branch family members were part of the Lin Clan.

“Branch family...” Lin Langtian took his head, a look of indifference in his eyes. If Lin Dong was truly a member of the clan, he would perhaps reluctantly step in. However, since he was from the low status branch family, there was no need. It truly was not worthwhile to sour the relationship with the Wang Clan for a branch family member.

“You no longer need to care about this matter.” Upon hearing Lin Langtian’s indifferent tone, Lin Ke-er’s heart turned cold.

Lin Dong stood on the spot, as his fists tightly clenched. He was able to hear the contempt in Lin Langtian’s voice. Although their family names were both Lin, it was evident that the latter did not once regard him as someone from the same clan.

That indifference and contempt were like knives which cut across Lin Dong’s heart, causing his gaze to turn ice-cold.

“I did not expect that this person was actually someone from a branch family of the Lin Clan. Since this is so, I should not make things too difficult for him. Brother Lin Langtian, this matter shall be settled by you.” Wang Yan chuckled as he said.

Upon hearing this, Lin Langtian softly chuckled. His gaze turned towards Lin Dong, considering for a moment before he said: “Since you have a little relation to my Lin Clan, I will be the judge for you this time. How about this, hand over the Soul Treasure, then apologize to Wang Pan and the rest, and we shall drop this matter.”

After hearing these words, Lin Ke-er’s pretty face once again changed. Handing over the treasure and apologizing, what kind of judge was this?

“Crack!”

Lin Dong's tightly clenched fists emitted a bone cracking sound. His was expressionless, but the rage in his heart had never before burned so hot. He stared at Lin Langtian's handsome face, letting out a cold laugh as he said: "Truly such a excellent judge."

"You dare to not listen to my words?" Upon hearing Lin Dong's laughter, Lin Langtian's expression slowly turned icy. His status in the Lin Clan was extremely high, among the younger generation, no one dared to refute him. Even some of the older generation were rather courteous towards him, yet today, this low status member of the branch family dared to question his words?

His dignity seemed to provoked at this moment!

"I am in charge of the Lin family's law enforcement group. Just based on that one sentence of yours, I can arrest you and bring you to the clan's ancestral hall to receive punishment!"

"I'll say it again, will you do as I have said!"

Lin Langtian's expression was ice-cold, he suddenly took one step forward, as a Creation stage practitioners terrifying aura directly erupted out, before ruthlessly oppressing Lin Dong's body like a mountain.

"Creak!"

Under that exceedingly powerful aura, Lin Dong's knees abruptly

bent. Soon after, his eyes turned scarlet red as he forcefully resisted the pressure, while the bones in his body continuously emitted creaking sounds, as if they were bearing a heavy weight.

“Truly a little courageous!”

Upon seeing that Lin Dong was actually able to resist kneeling under his aura, the coldness in Lin Langtian’s eyes turned even chillier, while the pressure of his aura grew increasingly stronger, such that, even the ground where Lin Dong stood was forcefully broken with a bang.

The Yuan Power in Lin Dong’s body frantically circulated, tenaciously resisting the pressure which caused him to be unable to move. Only now did he finally and thoroughly understand how enormous the gap between the Yuan Dan stage and the Creation stage was.

The pressure around him continuously tried to force Lin Dong down to his knees, while his gaze frantically flickered. He was measuring his strength and his cards.

However, when he finished his calculations, his heart sunk a little. The Qi Creation stage Lin Zhentian was too powerful.

“Big brother Lin Langtian!”

When she saw Lin Dong’s scarlet red face, as if the blood was about to drip out from his skin, Lin Ke-er once again worriedly

said. No matter what, Lin Dong had some relations to the Lin Clan. It was too humiliating for him to be treated this way in front of so many people.

Upon hearing Lin Ke-er's pleading tone, Lin Langtian's eyebrows lightly furrowed. Soon after, he placed his hands behind his back, as he looked down upon Lin Dong, whose body was pushed down till it became somewhat bent, and said in an indifferent voice: "On Lin Ke-er's account, Lin Dong, if you are able to withstand my aura and walk out of this stone hall, we can forget about this matter."

Lin Dong's body violently trembled under that gaze. A rage that had hit the limit caused an urge to thoroughly fight it out with Lin Langtian, although the final outcome would be Lin Dong's death in this place!

"Lin Dong, you and me, plus that mid-ranked Symbol Puppet have a twenty percent chance of heavily injuring or killing him. If you want to do it, I will aid you." While Lin Dong's eyes were red with madness, the small marten's voice was a little gloomy as it sounded out in his mind.

"Twenty percent."

After hearing this extremely low chance, Lin Dong's rationality, which was about to be covered up with rage, suddenly resurfaced. His blood red eyes unwaveringly stared at Lin Langtian, who was looking down upon him. Without any further words, he slowly turned around with great difficulty, before moving his heavy as a mountain feet, step by step towards the exit of the stone hall.

He knew that he was powerless to change this situation. Even if he managed to kill Lin Langtian in the end by some fluke, so what? Next, he would definitely incur the wrath of the Lin Clan. Under their rage, the Lin Family would be the first to be mercilessly eradicated, because the current Lin Dong was practically worthless compared to Lin Langtian.

The current him did not have the means to protect the Lin Family from the wrath of the Lin Clan, because, he was not strong enough!

“Lin Dong...”

After seeing that Lin Dong had chosen rationality in the end instead of impulse, a soft sigh could be heard from the little marten’s voice. It knew how difficult it was for a young man to make such a decision, even if it was the most rational course of action in this situation.

“Thud! Thud!”

Heavy footsteps rang out in the stone hall. Under that increasingly powerful pressure, drops of dark red blood oozed out from Lin Dong’s pores. Blood flowed down his body, and every step of his left behind a scarlet footprint on the ground, a ghastly sight for the eyes.

Gazing at the back of the figure who still took each mountainous step towards the exit of the stone hall while covered in blood, the

stone hall suddenly became much quieter. The eyes of those who were originally waiting to see some excitement slowly turned serious. The willpower of this youngster caused them to be somewhat moved.

Ling Qingzhu was stationed at the front of the stone hall, as she gazed at the youngster, who was walking over while covered from head to toe in blood. Ripples formed on the surface of her clear pupils, she could see the youngster's scarlet eyes and could also see the burning fire which had been buried deep in his eyes, plus a tenacity that caused one's heart to palpitate.

Lin Dong reeked of blood as he stepped past Ling Qingzhu with great difficulty. The latter's lily-white hands slightly clenched. Perhaps, because of great tenacity in the youth's eyes, or maybe a rarely seen softness in her heart. In the end, she did not say anything.

Under the gazes of the crowd in the silent stone hall, Lin Dong foot stepped out of the huge bronze door, as the pressure which was heavier than a mountain finally disappeared.

“Plop!”

At the disappearance of the pressure, Lin Dong vomited a mouthful of blood. His knees heavily slammed onto the ground, and then were firmly propped up by him. He did not look back, dragging a trail of blood as he slowly moved away. Under the setting sun, the trail of blood seemed particularly eye-piercing.

As his figure faded away from sight, a coarse and gloomy howl, like that of an injured wild beast, slowly sounded out and echoed about the stone hall.

“Lin Langtian...two years later at the clan gathering, today’s matter will be repaid a hundredfold!”

While gazing at the scarlet footprints, Lin Ke-er bit her rosy lips. The mountain-like willpower Lin Dong had displayed caused everyone to be moved.

Deeply sucking in a breath of air, Lin Ke-er gazed at Lin Langtian, whose expression remained calm, but, in her heart she knew that this responsible person, who stood at the pinnacle of the Lin Clan, had likely...already made himself a terrifying enemy.

In the clan gathering two years later...she believed that this younger would once again appear.

At that time, heaven and earth would be overturned in the Lin Clan because of him.

Chapter 182: Symbol Ancestor

As Lin Dong departed, the stone hall remained silent. Everyone was shocked that Lin Dong was actually able to withstand the pressure of a Qi Creation stage practitioner. Though the perfect Yuan Dan stage was only two stages away from the Qi Creation stage, the difference between them was like heaven and earth.

A perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner could perhaps be considered as a top tier practitioner in Yan City. However, it would not amount to much outside. Only by truly advancing to the Creation stage would one become famed in the Great Yan Empire.

A practitioner that has advanced to the first level of the Creation stage, the Form Creation stage, could easily defeat the combined forces of ten perfect Yuan Dan practitioners. This was the extent of the difference between them; difficult to make up for even with numbers.

When he was at the Heavenly Yuan stage, Lin Dong could match up against an advanced Yuan Dan practitioner, however, at the perfect Yuan Dan stage, it was very difficult for him to oppose Lin Langtian who was at Creation Stage...

Hence, when they saw that he was actually able to withstand Lin Langtian's pressure and walk out of the stone hall, the crowd could not help but feel a trace of astonishment in their hearts. This kind of willpower was very unimaginable on an inexperienced looking youngster.

“Heh, brother Lin Langtian, it seems like you have a new challenger.” As he stared at the bloodied footprints on the ground, Wang Yan’s eyes slightly narrowed before he chuckled.

After hearing these words, Lin Langtian let out a chuckle as he casually said: “In this Great Yan Empire, there are countless people who hope to use me to become famous under the heavens, having one more means nothing to me. However, most of them are only acting out of a moment of anger. When they calm down, they will realize how ridiculous they are.”

Wang Yan smiled. However, as his eyes stared at the bloodied footprints, they slightly narrowed.

.....

On a secluded mountain peak in the Sky Flame Mountain Range, Lin Dong was seated on a large boulder. The blood on his body had already solidified and fallen off. Even though it seemed like he had been badly injured by that pressure from before, it was not that severe. After all, Lin Langtian only wanted to demonstrate his dominance and force Lin Dong onto his knees. However, he never expected that this was something that Lin Dong would never permit.

He would kneel to heavens, he would kneel to the earth, and he would kneel to his parents, however, he would never kneel in front of Lin Langtian!

Little Flame lay flat on the ground behind Lin Dong, it knew that

Lin Dong was extremely moody now, hence, it did not make any noise as it quietly lay beside him.

“Kid, you were impressive!”

In front of Lin Dong, a glowing shadow materialized, as the small marten appeared. However, it did not mock him as before, but instead raised its claws to him and spoke.

“After being humiliated in such a way, how can I be called impressive?” Lin Dong chuckled somewhat self-deprecatingly.

“Kid, if you had really disregarded your life and pulled out all the stops against him, you would be considered impressive as well. In fact, the bystanders will probably admire your courage, before they mourn your loss. However, after that, your Lin Family will fall into despair. Your parents will be heartbroken and they may even fight to the death against that guy for you. Then, the outcome will still be same and you will have also doomed the entire Lin Family. You should also understand why this is so, that is because the current you is not as valuable as that fellow.”

The small marten smiled as it somewhat sincerely said: “Sometimes, it’s best not to go all-out. A truly impressive individual knows when to endure and when to withdraw. Even if others mock him, he will ignore them. That is true courage and charisma...because, hope springs eternal as long as one is alive.”

“When you become more powerful than Lin Langtian, even if you kill him, the Lin Clan will not dare to take any action against your

Lin Family. You should understand this principle. It was also why you chose the most humiliating option just now. Heh heh, your choice has earned a little of my admiration for the first time.”

Lin Dong deeply exhaled, as he stared up at the blue sky. Suddenly, he asked: “If I want to defeat him two years later, is it possible?”

“It is doable, but it will be very difficult.”

The small marten slowly nodded its head and said: “That fellow’s talent is truly terrifying. Furthermore, he has the support of the Lin Clan. Hence, he has access to all the best training resources available. While you are improving yourself, he will likely improve at an even quicker rate. Two years is truly a short time, an ordinary perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner will needs perhaps several years or even decades advance to the Form Creation stage. Furthermore, that fellow is at the Qi Creation stage!”

Lin Dong silently nodded his head. He knew how challenging this would be, however...

“Two years later, I will defeat him!”

When it heard the steely conviction in the youngster’s voice, the small marten suddenly let out a laugh and said: “Of course, it does not mean that there is no way to do so.”

Lin Dong eyes slightly flickered as he stared at the small marten.

“Ancestral Symbol.” The small marten casually replied.

“Ancestral Symbol?” Lin Dong was taken aback, as he recalled the Mental Energy map that he had obtained at the Symbol Master Tower. On the map were the locations of two Ancestral Symbols.

“You cannot imagine just how powerful an Ancestral Symbol is. In fact, even in this entire Great Yan Empire, I doubt that anyone can. From the memories that I inherited from my tribe, I know that in this world, there was once a legendary expert who ruled over the world. I cannot fully explain to you just how terrifying that figure was. However, all I can tell you is that for an existence like him, he only needed a flick of his finger to completely obliterate the entire Great Yan Empire!” For the first time, an extremely fanatical reverence appeared in the small marten’s voice.

However, Lin Dong did not feel too overwhelmed. After all, he could not imagine how anyone could wipe out an entire empire with a flick of his finger...

That still seemed too distant to him.

“That legendary dictator was later called the “Symbol Ancestor”, and he was renowned across the world.”

“Symbol Ancestor? Is he related to the Ancestral Symbols?” Lin Dong was stunned, soon after, he swiftly inquired.

“As I have mentioned before, in this world, there are eight Ancestral Symbols that were born from the laws of the world. This “Symbol Ancestor” was the owner of all the eight Ancestral Symbols. After which, these Ancestral Symbols were scattered across the world and no one has managed to gather them all since then. Nonetheless, if one is able to obtain just one of them, he will become one of the present-day’s strongest practitioners, and possess the might to flip mountains and boil oceans!”

“Therefore, if you could find an “Ancestral Symbol”, I guarantee you that two years later, in that so-called clan gathering, you will definitely thrash Lin Langtian like a sandbag! If you fail to do so, go ahead and beat me!”

When he heard those last few words, the taunt faced Lin Dong involuntarily let out a chuckle, before he promptly said: “Since this Ancestral Symbol is so powerful, it would be quite difficult to find right? Else, that senior from before would not have failed.”

“Of course. If it were so easy to find, how would you still have the opportunity.” The small marten rolled its eyes as it continued: “If you want to surpass Lin Langtian within two year, this is the most dependable method.”

Lin Dong was silent for a while, as Lin Langtian’s indifferent gaze once again flashed across his mind. Suddenly, he tightly gripped his fist, as he slowly nodded his head: “Very well, let’s go look for that Ancestral Symbol!”

“Heh heh, kid, this is the drive you need. Once you obtain the Ancestral Symbol, your future potential will be limitless. At that time, that crappy Lin Clan will be begging you to join them.” When it saw this, the small marten gleefully replied.

“Why are you instigating me to look for this Ancestral Symbol?” Lin Dong suddenly turned around as he suspiciously asked.

“Eh...” As Lin Dong stared intently at it, the small marten eye’s spun before it waved its claws in resignation and said: “Kid, this is for your own good. This Stone Talisman has an extraordinary origin. Since it has now landed in your hands, in the future, there will definitely be big problems that will come your way. If you are not powerful enough, you will end up like me. Of course those that accompanied me will naturally be doomed by my misfortune as well.”

When he saw the small marten’s expression, Lin Dong facial expression turned slightly serious as he involuntarily traced his fingers against his palm. Where exactly did this mysterious Stone Talisman come from and what could it do? Why was even this mysterious small marten so fearful.

“Don’t worry. Right now, that item is still sealed. Furthermore, you are still too weak, hence no one will discover it...” As if it was afraid that Lin Dong would be flustered, the small marten hastily reassured him.

With a pained smile, Lin Dong nodded his head. He had suddenly realized that this damned Stone Talisman was actually a hidden bomb.

“When do you plan on leaving to search for the Ancestral Symbol?” The small marten asked.

“Let’s head back to Yan City first. After we have settled all our issues, we shall go!” Lin Dong thought for a moment, before he replied.

“Alright, let’s go then.” The small marten nodded its head, before it turned into a light beam and darted into Lin Dong’s palm.

“Little Flame!”

Lin Dong called out as he stood up. Little Flame, which was nearby, immediately dashed over, as Lin Dong jumped onto its back. With a wave of his hand, Little Flame released a deep growl, which shook the forests, before it turned into a red flash and charged away from the Sky Flame Mountain Range.

At Little Flame’s full speed, it took only half a day to cross the entire Sky Flame Mountain range. It was evidently much faster than before.

A blazing shadow swept across the mountains, before it violently stopped, as it charged towards a mountain peak while roaring.

Seated on the tiger’s back, Lin Dong eyes slowly turned towards that mountain peak, only to find was a man dressed in golden seated at the top of the mountain, Under the rays of the sun,

dazzling lights were reflected off. A golden spear stood in the hands of the man in gold, as an astonishing and arrogant aura shot towards the heavens and surged across the skies.

“Wang Yan!”

When he saw the figure seated on the mountaintop, Lin Dong’s glaze slowly darkened.

“Lin Langtian is conceited and refused to take notice of you. However, I do not wish to leave a potential disaster. After today’s matter, you already bear a grudge against my Wang Clan. Since that is the case, I must take your life today!”

On mountain top, the man dressed in gold slowly looked down, as he stared at Lin Dong below, his cold voice laced with killing intent.

Chapter 183: Fierce Battle with Wang Yan!

“Wang Yan!”

Lin Dong stared at the figure in gold robes that was seated on the mountaintop, as a chill arose in his eyes. This person was the true ring leader behind today’s matter!

“Hand over the Soul Treasure and I will leave your dead body intact!”

On the mountaintop, Wang Yan slowly stood up, as an exceptionally overwhelming aura erupted forth. Like a flood, it screamed downwards towards Lin Dong.

“Do you think you are Lin Langtian?!”

A pressure once again pushed down on his body, but Lin Dong’s body only slightly trembled, as he lifted his head unafraid and thickly said. He was indeed not Lin Langtian’s match, such that even after using all his cards, he would only have a twenty percent change of severely injuring or killing the latter. However, Lin Dong would not be that powerless in the face of a Form Creation stage Wang Yan.

“I’m still enough to kill you!” Wang Yan sneered, as the golden spear in his hand let out a low buzzing sound which resounded across the skies.

“Don’t dream that someone will come and save you. Even Lin Langtian is well aware of my objective this time. He merely does not wish to personally dispose of you, an insignificant member of the branch family is just an ant in the eyes of the clans.”

Wang Yan stepped through the air, every time his foot fell, tremendous Yuan Power seemed to condense till it had substance under his feet. It was just like a flight of steps that allowed him to finally come to a stop in the air before Lin Dong.

“If you want to kill me, show your true capabilities!”

Lin Dong’s voice was cold, he already had a belly full of indignation due to today’s matter. Yet, Wang Yan still refused to let it go, and once again came to oppress him. Since this was so, Lin Dong was left with no choice but to fight it out!

“Bang!”

As his shout fell, Lin Dong’s hand grabbed and the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd flashed into appearance. Heavily stamping off the ground, an unyielding power directly caused several cracks to form on the floor.

“Kid, today I will clearly show you a Form Creation stage practitioner’s power!”

Wang Yan sneered, while the golden spear in his hand stood upright in the air. Soon after, his hand grabbed out as an

exceptionally formidable golden Yuan Power gushed forth, straightaway transforming into a humongous Yuan Power hand that was dozens of meters large. It tore apart the air and punched with a bang towards Lin Dong.

The huge fist was like a mountain as it smashed downwards. Sonic booms continuously rang out and even the dry leaves on the ground were instantly turned to dust!

The Form Creation stage already possessed the power to form shapes, the Yuan Power within the body would follow one's desire to change into any shape. This kind of power was far from comparable to the weak Yuan Power of the Yuan Dan stage!

Upon seeing Wang Yan attack, Lin Dong's expression turned ice-cold, but his eyes were filled with seriousness. He understood the difference between the perfect Yuan Dan stage and the Form Creation stage, hence, he would naturally not be so stupid as to clash head on.

“Swish!”

With a thought, three Mysterious Ice Swords swept forth, however, just as they touched the huge Yuan Power fist, they were directly blown away. Of course, Lin Dong did not hope that these three swords, which were made from a slightly special material, to be of much use. In that split second, his body swiftly flew backwards in retreat, as a fiery-red long sword floated beneath his feet.

“Boom!”

The huge Yuan Power fist ferociously smashed in the place Lin Dong had occupied just moments before. A loud sound rang out, as crater that was several meters deep was directly formed on the ground.

“Planning to run?!”

Though the huge Yuan Power fist did not hit its target, Wang Yan still coldly chuckled as he spoke. His fist clenched as a huge Yuan Power fist once again screamed forth.

“Manifestation Symbol Array, manifest thousand flames!”

Lin Dong stepped on the long sword as a symbol array floated above his head. Mental Energy swiftly gathered before transforming into a tiny flame, which suddenly swept forth and heavily clashed against the huge Yuan Power fist.

“Bang!”

As the two forces collided, an extremely powerful shockwave suddenly exploded forth. The surrounding trees were directly snapped in the middle, as a strong gale screeched and spread outwards.

“Mental Energy?”

Upon seeing the symbol array above Lin Dong's head, astonishment flashed across Wang Yan's eyes. Evidently, he had not expected that Lin Dong's Mental Energy had also reached such a level.

Having blocked the huge Yuan Power fist, Lin Dong's remained ice-cold, as the three Destiny Soul Symbols in his Niwan palace also started to tremble violently at this moment. Waves of Mental Energy endlessly gushed out before pouring into the symbol array above his head.

“Manifest thousand flames!”

As Lin Dong softly shouted, the symbol array spun and this time, he forcefully condensed three flames. This was the maximum number Lin Dong could currently manifest at one go!

Three flames were quick as lightning as they swept through the air and shot towards Wang Yan.

“Mere light from fireflies!”

As he gazed at the three flames which rapidly grew bigger in his eyes, Wang Yan's expression turned a little chilly. His huge hand suddenly pushed forward, and a resplendent Yuan Power swiftly took shape at the center of his palm.

“Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm!”

Eye-piercing golden light erupted in the skies. Soon after, the golden light gathered together and directly transformed into a square-shaped golden platform that was about a dozen meters large. With a boom sound, it pushed down on the air and ruthlessly pressed down on the three flames.

“Boom!”

In the sky, the resplendent golden light abruptly transformed into thousands of gold rays which exploded outwards. The loud rumbling sound that followed was like thunder which boomed across the skies.

“Break!”

Golden light shot out, as Wang Yan’s expression suddenly turned serious. The golden platform persistently resisted the three flames, with a bang, they burst apart and transformed into nothingness.

When the three flames exploded, a muffled sound also emitted from Lin Dong’s throat, as his face turned pale. A Form Creation stage practitioner was indeed frightening.

“Die!”

After destroying the three flames, the cold glint in Wang Yan’s eyes intensified. With a stern shout, the golden platform immediately whizzed forth and flew towards Lin Dong. Given the

formidable force behind it, even a perfect Yuan Dan stage expert would be directly smashed to pulp.

The golden light was about a dozen meters from his body, and he could not avoid it. Lin Dong's grip on the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd suddenly tightened, as scarlet light abruptly erupted from the top of the halberd.

“Ding!”

The halberd flashed as it heavily jabbed at the golden platform, and actually slowed its speed.

“Buzz buzz!”

The ancient halberd forcefully withstood the golden platform, as waves of terrifying energy poured down in torrents. At this moment, the numerous scales on the ancient halberd swiftly squirmed, a scarlet glow enshrouded the halberd and quickly dispelled the encroaching energy.

“Heavenly Scales Halberd technique, fish scales halberd!”

Yuan Power whistled out from Lin Dong's Dantian and frantically poured into the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd in his hand. Soon after, his face flushed red as he sternly shouted out.

“Boom!”

At this moment, a scarlet light erupted from the ancient halberd. The scarlet light quickly condensed before violently sweeping forth. As the scarlet light flashed, it looked just like a sinister huge red-scaled fish!

Upper category martial art, Heavenly Scales Halberd technique!

This was the final present the master of the tomb had given Lin Dong!

Given Lin Dong's current strength, he was naturally unable to give shape to Yuan Power. However, with the power of the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd, combined with the complementing Heavenly Scales Halberd techniques, he was barely able to do this!

The sinister huge red-scaled fish rushed forth, bringing with it an impact that could rip apart huge waves, as it ruthlessly slammed into the golden platform. A formidable and devastating gale erupted outwards and directly tore apart the golden platform at the middle!

In the air, when Wang Yan saw the huge red-scaled fish tearing apart the golden platform, his expression changed. Evidently, he was shocked that Lin Dong was actually able to give shape to Yuan Power.

However, this shock merely lasted for a second, before he realized that it was all due to the ancient halberd in Lin Dong's hands.

“Such a good Soul Treasure, from the looks of it, it must have reached the middle ranked Soul Treasure stage. However, if this is all you have, then I will take both your life and treasure today!”

Wang Yan chuckled, his hand grabbed onto the golden spear, and with a jerk, a light that was even more formidable than the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd gushed out and filled the skies.

“Kid, you are lucky that you are able to experience the power of my Wang family’s Great Luo Golden Spear before you die!” As he grasped the golden spear, Wang Yan looked like a war god. Golden light bubbled forth and a proud aura soared into the clouds.

“High level Soul Treasure!” Lin Dong gazed at the extraordinary golden spear, as his pupils slightly shrunk. From it, he felt an extremely dangerous aura.

Truth be told, Wang Yan was not willing to use the Great Luo Golden Spear against Lin Dong. This was because his pride told him that such a treasure should only be used against a practitioner at the level of Lin Langtian. Yet, he never expected that a merely perfect Yuan Dan stage Lin Dong was able to survive several of his attacks. Although it was with the aid of Mental Energy and the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd, this was still something that Wang Yan could not permit.

Thus, he had no choice but to use his deadliest weapon!

With the Great Luo Golden Spear in hand, Wang Yan’s aura

soared and immediately became exceedingly formidable and overbearing. He glared at Lin Dong, and without any further words, the spear jerked and smashed down like a rod.

“Boom!”

The golden spear danced, as the Yuan Power surrounding Wang Pan seemed to explode. A golden light that was a dozen meters large straightaway screamed forth. Like a threatening golden dragon, it brought a terrifying aura as it charged towards Lin Dong.

Golden light filled his eyes. That speed made it impossible to dodge. Lin Dong deeply inhaled, as the Yuan Power inside his Yuan Dan whizzed out and poured into the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd in his hand!

“Buzz buzz!”

As the powerful Yuan Power poured in, the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd started to shudder, and emitted a buzzing noise. Faintly, it seemed as if it was about to escape from the hand that held it.

Lin Dong tightly grabbed onto the shaft of the halberd, as it suddenly moved. Scarlet light gushed out like a rainbow as the halberd danced, and quickly gathered together. In the end, it actually transformed into a huge scarlet python that was a dozen meters long!

“Heavenly Scales Halberd technique, python scale halberd!”

The scarlet light gushed forth and spread across the horizon. Lin Dong’s expression was cold, as the Yuan Power in his body was pushed to the limit at this moment. Quickly, the ancient halberd in his hand ruthlessly swung.

“Boom!”

The ancient halberd jolted, as the huge scarlet python also left the ancient halberd with a boom. It brought with it an exceedingly frantic and formidable undulation as it swept across the horizon, before finally smashing into the golden light which descended from the skies!

In a flash, Yuan Power screamed out, as the mountains shivered!

Chapter 184: Might of the Symbol Puppet

The earth-shattering might of the terrifying Yuan Power hurricane frantically unfurled, causing all the trees within a hundred meters to be forcefully broken apart. In that short instance, this piece of forest became exceptionally empty.

“Swish!”

Golden and scarlet light filled the horizon, and one of the figures was blown back as it heavily landed in the forest. Along the way, it broke numerous huge trees before slowly coming to a stop.

“Retch!”

The one that had fallen to the ground was Lin Dong. At this moment, his expression was rather pale, and in the end, he spit out a mouthful of fresh blood. However, although his situation was not very good, his eyes were especially passionate. This was the first time he had done battle with a Form Creation stage practitioner. Though it was challenging, it felt incomparably carefree.

In the air, golden light whistled as a figure was likewise jolted backwards. However, after taking about ten steps back, he suddenly shouted out, as the golden spear in his hand heavily slammed down in mid-air. Only then did he forcefully steady his body. Although his body was stable, a strong force still broke out from his body and turned a boulder behind him to dust.

“Good kid!”

There was a faint trace of green on Wang Yan's face. His hand tightly gripped onto the Great Luo Golden Spear, as he glared at the figure in the forest a distance away. He did not expect that the latter would actually be so hard to take care of, such that even after he use the Great Luo Golden Spear, the latter could still resist to such an extent.

He was arrogant by nature and would never allow a mere perfect Yuan Dan stage brat to achieve this kind of outcome at his hand. Thus, no matter what, he must kill Lin Dong today!

“I'm interested to find out just how many spear attacks of mine you can endure today!”

Wang Yan roared, a malicious glint flashing in his eyes, as a thick killing intent poured out. Previously, Lin Dong's attack was indeed astonishingly ferocious, such that it could even match up against him. However, Wang Yan had extremely sharp eyes, he could naturally tell that Lin Dong's attacks were extremely draining, and based on the amount of Yuan Power he had, he would last for long.

“Boom!”

As he shouted out, the golden spear in Wang Yan's hands once again jerked, and its body violently swept forth. Man and spear became one as they transformed into a golden flash that streaked across the sky, emitting an extremely overbearing and formidable spear aura, as they frantically charged towards Lin Dong.

Wherever that golden flash passed by, a deep gorge would be plowed in the ground below, as if a hideous mud python was struggling within the ground.

From the looks of it, Wang Yan was evidently overflowing with the murderous intent. Lin Dong's performance led him to understand that it was best to get rid of such a person as soon as possible. If not, Lin Dong would become a huge trouble in future.

The golden light that filled the sky quickly enlarged in Lin Dong's pupils. However, he did not avoid it this time, and instead stared directly at that golden light.

“Die!”

The golden light arrived in the blink of an eye. As he stared at Lin Dong, who was standing motionless, a sinister look flashed across Wang Yan's face, while his arm suddenly jutted forth. The golden light in his hand was just like a golden dragon, as it flew towards Lin Dong's head while filled with a domineering aura.

“Swish!”

The golden light swept forth and arrived in a split second. However, just as it was about to hit Lin Dong, a massive figure suddenly appeared. At the same time, a dazzling glow exploded from its bronze body, as a punch was released!

“Boom!”

There were no gimmicks behind this punch. The only thing behind this punch was an incomparably wild Yuan Power vibration, this Yuan Power seemed to have condensed and crystallized. As this punch was released, the air nearby exploded. In fact, even the surrounding trees were blown to dust, with a loud bang.

The sudden appearance of this terrifying punch caused a look of shock to surface in Wang Yan's eyes. Before he had time to react, the bronze punch had already fearlessly smashed against the tip of his golden spear!

“Dong!”

A deep echo sounded out in these woods as rows and rows of trees collapse. If one was hovering in the skies, one could see that an extremely powerful shockwave was now spreading out from the epicenter in a circular manner. Wherever the shockwave passed through, the dense forest would be levelled. In fact, some unfortunate Demonic Beasts did not even have time to react, before they were forcibly squished into blood stains.

“Bang!”

As that terrifying shockwave howled, the two figures in the center were blown back almost a hundred meters, as two deep scars were etched out on the ground.

“What is this?” After he stabilized his body, a red flush appeared

on Wang Yan's face. Then, he stared in shock at a bronze figure, as his pupils suddenly shrunk: "Symbol Puppet!"

Wang Yan was not unfamiliar with that bronze figure. He had encountered it before in the tomb. However, the four of them had allied together, before they were able to defeat it. At that time, he was quite keen on obtaining one, unfortunately, since that Symbol Puppet had been marked by the Nirvana stage practitioner, he had no choice but to give up.

Yet, never in his wildest dreams did he expect that this Symbol Puppet, which he had yearned for, would actually appear in Lin Dong's hands!

"Just how many treasures did this kid obtain in the tomb!"

Wang Yan's face was green, he clearly knew how powerful this Symbol Puppet was. Not only could it match up to a Form Creation stage expert, it did not feel pain at all. Hence, it was a complete killing machine and would be a formidable opponent.

Lin Dong's feet stepped on a blade as he hovered above the Symbol Puppet, and stared coldly at the now slightly injured Wang Yan. With a wave of his hand, endless streams of Pure Yuan pills flew out from his Qiankun bag, and when these Pure Yuan pills touched the Symbol Puppet, they immediately turned into pure Yuan Power and gushed inside it.

Right now, even though the Symbol Puppet consumed a huge amount of Pure Yuan pills each time it attacked, Lin Dong no

longer cared. Even if he had to go bankrupt, he would cripple or kill this son of a b*tch!

As a large amount of Pure Yuan pills turned into Yuan Power and flowed into the Symbol Puppet, the bronze glow on the latter's body became increasingly bright. In fact, a bronze glow even began to appear in its sunken eyes.

“Go!”

Another two thousand Pure Yuan pills were guzzled down like water. Without time to experience any heart-ache, with a flick of his hand, the Symbol Puppet turned into a blurry figure as it dashed forth with a loud bam. Its speed was extremely terrifying. With a swish, it explosively appeared in front of Wang Yan. Without the slightest hesitation, a glowing bronze fist was directed towards him.

Punch, explode!

The Symbol Puppet's speed once again completely exceeded Wang Yan's expectations. Only now did he finally understand how difficult it was for him to deal with a Symbol Puppet alone. However, since he could not avoid it, he wave his hand shielded himself with his Great Luo Golden Spear.

“Bang!”

The bronze fist was just like a mountain, as it heavily slammed

against the Great Luo Golden Spear. That terrifying force actually managed to directly bend the shaft of the spear. Wang Yan's body was blown back, ruthlessly smashing into a nearby cliff, as his body sunk deeply into it. Meanwhile, fresh blood began to flow from the corners of his mouth.

“Go!”

Lin Dong swiftly chased after him. With a cold expression, another two thousand Pure Yuan pills were deposited into the Symbol Puppet, as the killing machine that knew no pain or tiredness once again dashed forth.

When that Symbol Puppet dashed forth, Wang Yan leapt into the air. With a hideous expression on his face, the golden spear in his hand suddenly released a dazzling golden light. With a loud roar, his golden spear flew down and mercilessly shot at the Symbol Puppet's body.

“Tch!”

The Great Luo Golden Spear was truly a high class Soul Treasure. It was so powerful that when its full force was delivered onto the Symbol Puppet's body, it directly pierced through the latter.

If this was against a human opponent, this injury would likely have been fatal. However, a Symbol Puppet does not feel any pain. Even though its body had been pierced, it clenched its fist while expressionless and continued to plow forward. To Wang Yan's horror, a fist ferociously smashed into his body.

“Boom!”

At last, Wang Yan’s body took a direct hit. A mouthful of fresh blood was sprayed out, as the clothes on his body were reduced to dust by the gigantic force.

When Wang Yan was beaten naked, a black object was suddenly flung out. Nearby, when Lin Dong saw this situation, he hurriedly waved his hand, as a suction force immediately gushed forth, and directly sucked that black object into his hands under Wang Yan’s shocked and furious gaze. With a look, he realized that it was actually a purplish black Qiankun bag!

Judging by its color and craftsmanship, it was evidently a rare high-grade Qiankun bag!

“After all I have spent, this shall be my reward!” As he grabbed the Qiankun bag, Lin Dong unceremoniously kept it as he coldly chuckled.

Upon seeing that his Qiankun bag was taken by Lin Dong, Wang Yan was so mad that he vomited blood, and fiercely shouted: “Elder Shen, kill this brat!”

At Wang Yan’s furious shout, Lin Dong was suddenly taken aback. Did this guy still have a helper?

While his heart was in shock, Lin Dong’s reaction did not slow.

He hastily raised his hand and recalled the Symbol Puppet, before his figure swiftly retreated.

“Young master Wang Yan, old Xiu has said that you can allow me to step in, but you will be in a lot of trouble.” While Lin Dong’s figure rapidly withdrew, a somewhat helpless old voice suddenly rang out in the air. Soon after, an elderly figure appeared beside Wang Yan, below the figure’s feet was a grey disc of light.

As this elderly figure appeared, a frightening aura that was not inferior to Lin Langtian’s also quietly filled the air.

“Qi Creation stage!”

As he gazed at the elderly man in grey, Lin Dong’s pupils abruptly shrunk, and his heart slowly sunk.

Chapter 185: Saved

The elderly man in grey stood atop a round grey disc with his hands behind his back, and his long beard floating in the wind. A powerful heart palpitating aura slowly spread out from his body, causing the Yuan Power surrounding him to vibrate.

At this moment, Wang Yan had already received and put on some clothes from the elderly man in grey, but he still appeared a little ragged. Originally, with his strength and the might of the Great Luo Golden Spear, he would not be pushed to this sorry state by the Symbol Puppet. However, he was a little spent after the intense battle with Lin Dong previously, and most importantly, he had actually underestimated the Symbol Puppet as an ordinary opponent. His formidable spear attack had drilled through the Symbol Puppet's heart, an attack that should have been fatal... unfortunately, the Symbol Puppet did not have a heart. It did not have the same weaknesses a human had.

Hence, in that short moment when Wang Yan relaxed, an extremely ferocious attack was released by the Symbol Puppet. Unable to protect himself, he was directly hit, and the resulting injuries were not light.

“Elder Shen, kill this brat!”

After putting on the clothes, Wang Yan's expression was exceptionally dark. The elder beside him was sent by the clan to protect him, after all, his position in the Wang Clan was not low, hence it was normal for him to enjoy some special privileges. However, due to the agreement between the four great clans, the

elder had not revealed himself in the tomb.

In his trip this time to stop Lin Dong, Wang Yan had also thought of directly letting elder Shen swiftly dispatch the former. However, after some consideration, Wang Yan decided to personally undertake this task in the end. The reason behind this was simple: he did not believe that taking care of Lin Dong would be difficult at all.

As a Form Creation stage practitioner, and with the high-grade Soul Treasure, the Great Luo Golden Spear, in his hands, even within the Form Creation stage, his battle power was extremely high. How could he possibly fail to take care of a mere perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner with this kind of strength?

Of course, the final cruel outcome gave him the answer to this question. This unremarkable looking kid was truly not easy to deal with...

Upon hearing Wang Yan's furious voice, the elderly man known as elder Shen let out a soft chuckle. Soon after, his gaze swept over Lin Dong as he smile and said: "To think that you were actually able to push young master Wang Yan to this step at the perfect Yuan Dan stage, this the first time in many years this old man has seen such a sight."

Lin Dong wore a severe expression, as his hand tightly gripped onto the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd, while he controlled the Symbol Puppet to stand guard at his side. He had already used all his cards against Wang Yan, and this old man's strength had reached the Qi Creation stage. If the old man stepped in, Lin Dong

knew that the outcome was bleak for him.

However, no matter how difficult it was to defeat his opponent, he would at least not give up so easily!

“Hand over your Soul Treasure, bind yourself and let young master Wang Yan personally handle the rest.” The elderly man in grey stroked his beard as he smiled and dully said.

Lin Dong coldly laughed in his heart, ignoring the old man’s words, his foot stepped on the sword as he hastily retreated. While he retreated, his sleeve flung out, as another two thousand Pure Yuan pills entered the Symbol Puppet’s body.

“Hai.”

Upon seeing that Lin Dong insisted on escaping, the elderly man in grey also softly sighed. His body flashed, as several after images appeared in the sky, while he chased Lin Dong at an extremely frightening speed.

When the elderly man gave chase, Lin Dong’s mind moved, and a bronze glow once again erupted from the Symbol Puppet, as it violently charged at the former.

“A mere middle ranked Symbol Puppet will not be able to save you!” As he watched the Symbol Puppet dashing over, the elderly man let out an icy laugh. His gnarled hands suddenly extended, as a ferocious Yuan Power gushed forth, directly transforming into a

small Yuan Power mountain that was dozens of meters large, before smashing downwards, firmly crushing the Symbol Puppet to the ground.

At the sight of the Symbol Puppet being subdued in a single blow, Lin Dong felt a chill in his heart. Was this the true power of a Qi Creation stage practitioner? It was indeed way stronger than the Form Creation stage.

“Bang!”

His figure rapidly retreated, as Lin Dong tried to control the Symbol Puppet to struggle free of the small Yuan Power mountain. At this time, the latter's body had already dimmed once again, as it had evidently used up quite a lot of Yuan Power. Lin Dong could only softly sigh as he kept reaching into his Qiankun bag. Meanwhile his gaze rapidly flickered, and his mind furiously tried to come up with a plan of escape.

Upon seeing Lin Dong retrieve the Symbol Puppet, the elderly man in grey did not stop him. With a cold laugh, his palm extended out again. Yuan Power converged and once again formed a small Yuan Power mountain. This time however, it directly flew towards Lin Dong.

The small Yuan Power mountain whizzed downwards, bringing with it an intense sonic boom that would cause an intense pain in one's eardrums.

This kind of attack was even more powerful than when Wang

Yan used the Great Luo Golden Spear!

“Lin Dong, transform three thousand Pure Yuan pills into Yuan Power and pour it into the Stone Talisman!” At this critical moment, the small marten’s voice urgently sounded out in Lin Dong’s mind.

Upon hearing this, Lin Dong gently gritted his teeth. Without any hesitation, his mind flicked as Pure Yuan pulls continuously gushed out of his Qiankun bag, before finally shooting into his palm. Meanwhile, a suction force also erupted from the Stone Talisman, which gobbled up all the the Pure Yuan pills.

As the huge number of Pure Yuan pills poured into the Stone Talisman, Lin Dong felt an extremely powerful energy shockwave swiftly spread out from within.

“Buzz buzz!”

When the shockwave spread out, a purplish black Qi suddenly gushed out from Lin Dong’s palm, before quickly gathering together in mid-air. In the blink of an eye, it transformed into a purplish black vortex that was about a dozen meters large.

“Tch ch!”

Once the vortex formed, the small Yuan Power mountain arrived. When the two forces touched, waves of terrifying corrosive power immediately dispersed from the vortex. Under this corrosive

power, the small Yuan Power mountain gradually crumbled.

When he saw that even this small Yuan Power mountain formed by a Qi Creation stage expert was directly corroded by the small marten, Lin Dong was taken aback. This fellow was truly extraordinary.

“Don’t depend on me. Right now, I am still too weak and it’s too strenuous to fight against a Qi Creation stage expert. At this rate, I will be exhausted in no time. Let’s hurry and escape...” While Lin Dong was delighted, the small marten panted as its voice sounded out inside his mind.

When he heard these words, Lin Dong’s elated heart quickly turned cold, as he shook his head helplessly. It seems like the small marten was just a paper tiger...

“Oh?” The elderly man dressed in grey robes was also shocked by this situation. Promptly, he stared somewhat seriously at Lin Dong and said: “I did not expect that you still had such strange methods...”

“However, this old man want to see whether you can withstand this attack!” After he finished speaking, the elderly man leapt into mid-air, as the grey disc below his feet began to howl. Then, it started to swirl manically, as an exceptionally formidable blade of light began to spin around the disc.

“Shining Black Blade, slice through the heavens!”

As the grey disc swirled manically, even though they were separated by hundreds of feet, Lin Dong could still feel a stinging sensation on his skin. In fact, the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd in his hand also began to tremble; it must have sensed the immense incoming danger.

“Go!”

The elderly man in grey did not give Lin Dong any time to run away. As he stared at the latter, his finger suddenly jutted forth. Then, that black disc began to rotate at an even faster rate, before it exploded towards Lin Dong at, so fast that one could not see it with the naked eye.

Lin Dong’s eyes could only see a grey flash flit across the sky. Then, he began to feel fine cuts on his skin that seemed to be caused by the wind from that formidable force. Meanwhile, drops of fresh blood began to surface on his body.

Faced with this attack, a feeling of danger filled Lin Dong’s heart. With a flick of his mind, vigorous Mental Energy immediately gushed forth and formed layer after layer of Mental Energy barriers before him.

At the same time, some purplish black lights once again shot out from his palm. They quickly gathered together and ruthlessly collided with the glowing black disc.

“Ch!”

When that purplish black light collided with the glowing black disc, this time, it did not achieve much effect. Its corrosive power was only able to slow down the glowing black disc slightly, before it was forcefully split apart.

“Bang bang!”

After it broke free of the purplish black light, the glowing black disc’s speed was slightly reduced. However, it still dashed towards Lin Dong at a terrifying pace. Meanwhile, the layers of Mental Energy barriers did not accomplish much as well, as they were easily destroyed in seconds.

As he stared at that glowing black disc that was rapidly magnifying in his eyes, Lin Dong tightly gripped onto the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd in his hand, as he prepared to make his final stand. However, wind suddenly echoed out beside his ear, as a green light swept forth from the corner of his eyes, before it heavily clashed against the glowing black disc.

Though that green light seemed small, when it collided with the disc, an extremely formidable energy exploded forth. The black glowing disc that Lin Dong and small marten were unable to handle together, was directly blown back by the green light.

The sudden arrival of this aid stunned Lin Dong and the elderly man dressed in grey robes. Both of them hurriedly turned to look at that green light, only to see it transform into a green lotus petal as the light scattered.

After deflecting the glowing black disc, before Lin Dong had time to react, another green light flashed forth and directly enveloped his body. Amidst the sounds of wind blowing, he could sense a faint heart palpitating fragrance stealthily emerging.

When he saw that Lin Dong was being rescued, that elderly man's face suddenly changed. Just as he planned to give chase, Wang Yan's voice suddenly sounded out: "There's no need to go after them."

The elderly man was stunned, as he turned to face Wang Yan, whose face was now a little gloomy. His eyebrows furrowed, as he asked: "Does young master Wang Yan know who that was?"

Wang Yan's facial expression was in flux. Promptly, he turned to leave, leaving behind some ice-cold words.

"If she wants to save him, you cannot stop her!"

Chapter 186: Chat on the Mountaintop

The mountain winds were biting cold. Lin Dong gazed at the graceful and beautiful figure before him which stood at the edge of the cliff, as a soft breeze brushed over, causing her fine black hair to gently flutter, creating a free and elegant look.

With regards to this sudden aid, Lin Dong was evidently extremely astonished. Never did he imagine that this woman, who was full of murderous intent just a while back, would actually come and save him on her own accord.

“Cough...”

The silence on the mountaintop lasted for a long time, before Lin Dong finally let out a dry cough and clasped his hands together: “Many thanks to miss Ling Qingzhu for helping me.”

“I saved you only because I want to kill you.”

Just as Lin Dong’s voice rang out, a soft and indifferent reply caused his expression to turn awkward. Soon after, he bitterly laughed and said: “Isn’t that overdoing it a little?”

Ling Qingzhu did not reply. She gazed at the mountains in the distance, while her clear eyes remained ice-cold. However, under that icy coldness, was an extremely faint ripple. Moments later, she turned and looked at the youngster as she said: “You are too weak.”

There was no contempt in her voice, only an undeniable fact.

“No one started out strong.” Under those clear yet cold pupils, Lin Dong sighed as he slowly said.

“Two years later, you still won’t be Lin Langtian’s match. Your challenge towards him is meaningless and merely nothing more than a loser trying to show off with some impressive final words.” Ling Qingzhu said in an indifferent manner.

Upon hearing Ling Qingzhu’s words, Lin Dong’s expression instantly darkened. Perhaps because of some unexplainable matters of the heart, he was able to remain calm despite Wang Yan’s and the rest’s disdainful sneers. However, standing before Ling Qingzhu, the first woman whom he had intimate relations of the flesh with, he was unable to bear these words.

“I will defeat him two years later!” Lin Dong deeply breathed in, staring at Ling Qingzhu as he slowly uttered each word.

Ling Qingzhu gazed at the youngster, whose eyes were filled with an incomparable stubbornness and an unwavering determination, as if she was unable to understand where he drew his confidence from. Moments later, her eyelashes moved slightly as she tilted her head and said: “I’ve saved you this time only because I want you to promise me one thing.”

“What happened in the old tomb will forever rot in your stomach, and can never be known. In fact, even you must pretend

it had never happened!”

Upon hearing the coldness in Ling Qingzhu’s voice, Lin Dong did not know why but the blood in his body suddenly felt as if it was about to surge, as he clenched his fist so tightly that creaking noises sounded out. He had long anticipated this, however, the heart of a youth after all contained various kinds of unrealistic and immature fantasies.

Yet, at the same time, he also clearly understood that Ling Qingzhu was not a woman who would give her heart and body to someone who had taken her. This woman was too prideful and it was very difficult to imagine if there would ever be a man who she would fancy in this world. In fact, Lin Dong believed that the two of them would never have crossed paths, if it were not for what had happened in the old tomb.

She was a phoenix that soared in the skies, and Lin Dong was merely a young wolf, which was still running towards the path of power. Even if they somehow met by chance, he could never hope that the phoenix would pause and stay by his side.

Lin Dong clearly understood all of this, yet, even though he understood, accepting it was not easy. Although this youngster knew how to endure patiently, he likewise had an extremely strong self-esteem. He was able to bear the humiliation he had suffered under Lin Langtian, but it was very difficult for him to maintain an indifferent attitude in the face of Ling Qingzhu’s serene tone.

From a certain point of view, the latter affected him so much more.

“Because I am weak?”

“Even if you were Lin Langtian, my words would not change.” Ling Qingzhu’s eyes slightly lowered, but her tone remained undisturbed.

“If I am stronger than Lin Langtian?!” Lin Dong abruptly raised his head and firmly stared at Ling Qingzhu.

“Are you courting death?”

Ling Qingzhu’s long, shapely eyebrows slightly knitted together, as her ice-cold voice sounded out: “If you continue, I will kill you right here. Don’t think that I do not dare!”

“Don’t be under the impression that I am dishonoring you. If what happened between us was even the least bit exposed, don’t even bother mentioning yourself, even the entire Lin Clan will definitely be completely exterminated. If you are not a fool, you should know why it cannot be. No matter how much willpower you have, some things are absolutely impossible! As a person, assess your capabilities and act accordingly!”

Upon hearing Lin Qingzhu’s icy voice as she spoke those last few words, Lin Dong looked up to the sky and deeply breathed in. A long time later, he finally replied in a low voice: “I will not mention what happened between us in the tomb to anyone... perhaps you might find this beneath contempt, but the fact remains that you’ve saved my life today. This debt will be repaid

by Lin Dong in the future!”

“If you want to return this debt, talk about it again when you possess the qualifications to participate in the Hundred Empire War.” Ling Qingzhu cast a glance at Lin Dong, before she elegantly turned around and gracefully left.

“Hundred Empire War?” Lin Dong was stunned.

“When you have truly surpassed Lin Langtian, you will naturally have the qualifications to know what it is. However, if you cannot even reach this point, your willpower and arguments will be nothing more than useless drivel and a joke.”

“If I can rise above the others in the Hundred Empire War, will I have the qualifications?!” Lin Dong seemed to have sensed something from Ling Qingzhu’s slight change in tone. He immediately raised his head, and stared at the exceptional figure atop the green lotus, as he said in a low voice.

He believed that Ling Qingzhu should understand what qualifications he was talking about.

Sure enough, Lin Qingzhu’s beautiful figure slightly paused. She was silent for quite some time, before she replied in an indifferent manner: “Just barely enough. However, I do not believe that you will reach that point. This is not contempt but merely being realistic. Regardless of whether you accept it, it will not change.”

Lin Dong stared unwaveringly at the beautiful figure which seemed to be made from all the spirits of heaven and earth. His eyes suddenly turned extremely passionate and unbridled: “That day will come. At that time, I will once again stand before you and tell you that, a woman that I’ve slept with will definitely be mine!”

The youngster’s suddenly fearlessness and unbridled manner directly caused the beautiful figure to turn rigid. One could imagine how wonderful the view of that absolutely beautiful face under the veil would be.

“Bang!”

Sure enough, Lin Dong’s wanton words drew a palm of green light, which ruthlessly slammed into his chest, smashing him into a boulder, such that even a trail of blood flowed out from the corner of his mouth. However, Lin Dong did not seem to be in pain at all, and instead heartily laughed out.

“I will only allow such blind and foolish words before you have truly reached the stage that you have spoken of this one time. Or else the consequences will not be offset by a single palm. I have already shown the utmost mercy to you, if you push this any further, I will kill you.”

The exceptional figure on the green lotus slightly tilted her head, gazing at the youngster who was practically embedded in the boulder, whose gaze remained as passionate and stubborn as before. An extremely faint disturbance suddenly surfaced in those clear eyes.

“Lin Dong, I hope that you will not be this weak the next time we meet. A truly strong person is not all talk.”

A soft voice hovered about the mountaintop, as the green lotus started to glow. Soon after, it transformed into a green light under Lin Dong’s gaze and swept towards the horizon. In a few breaths, it completely disappeared.

Gazing at the light as it disappeared into the horizon, Lin Dong deeply breathed in, before leaping off the cliff. He spit out the bloody foam in his mouth; the woman’s palm attack seemed to be heavy, but it was clearly also within the limits. Or else, it would not be so simple as spitting out one or two mouthfuls of blood for him.

“Kid, you’ve indeed been clouded by lust. If that woman was truly angered, you would not survive even if you had nine lives.” The small marten appeared before him and let out a strange laughter.

“Then, should I hold it in? What if I explode from doing so?” Lin Dong chuckled as he stared at the spot where Ling Qingzhu had disappeared, before he said: “When I meet her next time, I will honorably tear off her veil.”

“Bold, heh. However, it is a little difficult to achieve. To honorably tear off that woman’s veil is much more difficult than defeating Lin Langtian.” The small marten straightened its claws, not holding back as it spoke: “Although I do not know the identity

of that woman, it should be somewhat extraordinary. A poor brat like you is too unskilled to pick up a woman like that.”

Lin Dong softly chuckled, as he ignored the small marten’s insult. Regardless of how powerful and incredible Ling Qingzhu’s status was, he would not give up so easily.

She did not believe that he would be able to reach that step, then Lin Dong would prove her wrong in the end!

Even if this required a huge amount of sacrifice and hardwork, Lin Dong would not regret it at all. After all, everyone only gets one shot at life, if one lives life without ambition, one would have wasted it!

Hence, Lin Dong’s goal was that once he became a truly strong practitioner, he would once again stand before her. He did not want to prove anything to her out of hot bloodedness, rather he wanted to show her that the young man she had rejected years before on that mountaintop, had reversed her words!

Perhaps this kind of thinking and goal seemed too absurd for now. However, Lin Dong would not give up.

“Don’t think too far into the future. Be realistic kid. This time, in order to escape, you used eleven thousand Pure Yuan pills. Right now, you have only ten thousand left...”

While Lin Dong was staring into the horizon, the small marten’s

causal words suddenly caused his face to stiffen. An extreme heartache gushed out in his heart, eleven thousand...

“That son of a b*tch!”

The number of Pure Yuan pills on his hands had shrunk. This heartache caused Lin Dong to grit his teeth as he cursed Wang Yan countless times. How could this be a battle, it was practically using money to beat others!

“Thankfully, we managed to snatch that fellow’s Qiankun bag. His status in the Wang Clan is pretty high, so he should be quite wealthy...”

While his heart was aching, Lin Dong suddenly remembered the Qiankun bag he had snatched from Wang Yan. He hurriedly took it out and started flipping through it. He wanted to find out just how wealthy that fellow was!

“You had better not cause me to suffer a loss!”

Lin Dong gritted his teeth and uttered as he opened the Qiankun bag.

Chapter 187: Harvest

On the mountain top, the pain on Lin Dong's face gradually dissipated as he flipped through that Qiankun bag. In its place was a delighted expression. Evidently, the earnings this time were greater than his expenditure.

The wealth that Wang Yan possessed had far exceeded Lin Dong's expectations. Just the number of Pure Yuan pills inside that Qiankun bag alone, had reached twenty thousand. This gigantic fortune was enough to cause anyone to smack their lips. This Wang Clan was indeed extremely wealthy. Even a younger generation member would have such a huge sum of money on hand, a truly envious situation.

"It's no wonder those fellows were not interested in the Pure Yuan pills inside the old tomb. Everyone indeed leads different lives..."

Lin Dong softly sighed as he kept all of these Pure Yuan pills. Then, as he continued to rummage with his hand, he found an old manual with a faint golden glow. On its yellowish cover, were a few golden words.

"Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm!"

Lin Dong blinked as he recalled that golden stage-like martial art Wang Yan had displayed, as a fire lit up in his eyes. He had personally experienced the might of the Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm, and it was truly formidable. A golden platform made

from condensed Yuan Power; once it was executed, the force behind it was practically able to turn mountains and flip seas, no one would dare to block.

“Grade seven Martial Arts.”

Lin Dong flipped open that old manual as he browsed its contents, and lightly nodded his head. Grade seven, this was considered as an upper ranked Martial Arts. In fact, even though there was only a single grade of difference between a grade six and a grade seven Martial Arts, the gap between them was huge. One was middle ranked while the other was upper ranked. Hence, it was not difficult for one to deduce the disparity between them.

Furthermore, after Lin Dong had personally experienced the might of this Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm, truthfully, he was deeply yearned for it in his heart. However, he never imagined that he would actually obtain it today.

“I shall keep it!”

With regards to such a treasure, Lin Dong had no reason not to accept it. He grinned and chuckled, as he unceremoniously kept it into his clothes. As his strength grew, the Martial Arts that Lin Dong had learnt previously now seemed somewhat lacking. Even the Wonder Gate Seal was unable to accomplish much against a Creation stage practitioner.

For example, in the previous battle against Wang Yan, the Wonder Gate Seal had failed to achieve anything. Ultimately, it

was still limited by the the Martial Art itself. Hence, it was difficult for it to accomplish anything against someone stronger than Lin Dong like Wang Yan.

Furthermore, even though Lin Dong had obtained a genuine upper ranked Martial Art from the tomb's owner, this Martial Art was most effective only when used in combination with the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd.

Since Lin Dong had yet to reach the Form Creation stage, he had yet to understand the power of Form Creation. Therefore, this would affect the power of the Ancient Heavenly Scales technique. As such, this Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm would help to make up for some of his current shortcomings.

Grade seven Martial Art. Even though it was merely the beginning of upper ranked Martial Arts, it was already pretty formidable. Even amongst the entire Wang Clan, not everyone had the qualifications to learn this level of martial art.

After he kept the 'Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm', Lin Dong once again found some unique metal objects inside Wang Yan's Qiankun bag. When he saw how well preserved these items were, he guessed that they were fairly rare.

"Hmm, you are pretty lucky. Some of these rare metals are the materials needed to refine the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd." The small marten looked at them as it smiled.

"Oh, that's right. How do I upgrade this Ancient Heavenly Scales

Halberd to a high-grade Soul Treasure?” When the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd was mentioned, Lin Dong suddenly remembered, as he hurriedly asked.

When he was fighting with Wang Yan, Lin Dong clearly experienced just how powerful a high-grade Soul Treasure was. In fact, even the Soul Puppet’s sturdy body was directly pierced through by it. Hence, its might was truly astonishing. This time, if it were not for the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd and the Symbol Puppet, he would have most likely died at the hands of that fellow.

“We still lack some materials. Moreover, a Soul Treasure can only be refined by a Soul Symbol Master. It will likely be a while before we can upgrade the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd to a high-grade Soul Treasure.” The small marten answered.

“Reaching the Soul Symbol Master...”

When he heard these words, Lin Dong’s face was slightly stiff as he shook his head helpless. He had no choice but to temporarily suppress this matter in his heart. After all, it would still be quite some time before he advanced to the Soul Symbol Master level.

After he kept these unique metal materials, Lin Dong continued to rummage for a while. However, he did not encounter any more extraordinary items, and soon, he decided to give up and organize everything. When he discovered the total harvest, it was still pretty decent.

“Heh, at least I did not suffer a loss!” As he patted his inflated Qiankun bag, Lin Dong smiled in satisfaction.

“Kid, just that Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm and those special metal materials are enough for you to spend all those Pure Yuan pills. Furthermore, you even received twenty thousand more Pure Yuan pills. This time, you have hugely profited.” The small marten curled its lips as it said.

Lin Dong smiled as he stood up and said: “Let’s head back to Yan City. This time, we will likely be gone for a long period of time. Some problem need to be settled first.”

The problems that he was referring to was naturally the Blood Wolf Gang. Right now, the Lin Family had already firmly established themselves in Yan City. However, they were still lacking compared to a major faction like the Blood Wolf Gang. However, the grudge between the Blood Wolf Gang and the Lin Family was quite heavy. Thus, he did not feel at ease with such a huge problem beside his Lin Family.

Since he wanted to leave, he must clean up all these problems!

“Swoosh!”

Lin Dong’s foot tapped off the mountaintop, as a blade appeared below his feet. His figure swept forward as a whistle was swiftly released from his mouth. In the woods below, a tiger’s roar sounded out as a fiery-red shadow dashed out from within the woods.

Lin Dong's figure gently floated onto Little Flame's back. With a gentle pat, the latter was just like an arrow, as it dashed towards Yan City.

...

When Lin Dong had arrived at Yan City, it was already evening. Once he entered the city, he realized that the atmosphere inside was strange. Several people were rushing through the streets, and the direction they were headed in was the same. They were headed for the center of the city.

"This is going to be exciting. There will be an all-out battle between the Blood Wolf Gang and the Thousand Gold Association..."

While Lin Dong was puzzled, a few stealth whispers sounded out from the passerbys.

"Have they started?" When he heard these words, Lin Dong suddenly had a flash of understanding, however, he was not too surprised. After the Blood Wolf Gang had tried to ambush the Thousand Gold Association, they would not let this matter go easily. Therefore, a huge battle was naturally bound to occur once they returned.

When regards to the war that had erupted between both parties, Lin Dong was not too worried. The Thousand Gold Association was rich and powerful. If they fought, they would not lose out to the

Blood Wolf Gang. However, since they were both a part of the top three factions in Yan City, a stalemate would be unavoidable.

“It’s not going to be fun. In my opinion, the Thousand Gold Association is doomed. Based on my insider news, the Blood Wolf Gang has exhausted nearly all their financial resources to invite the two heads of Black Python Mountain this time. Both these individuals are at the perfect Yuan Dan stage. A long time ago, when Yue Shan had yet to establish the Blood Wolf Gang in Yan City, he had a reasonably good relationship with them. Furthermore, since he had paid them lavishly, these two heads from the Black Python Mountain would definitely assist him!”

“Indeed. Right now, the Blood Wolf Gang has reportedly surrounded the headquarters of the Thousand Gold Association. It seems like the Thousand Gold Association was not as well prepared as the Blood Wolf Gang. Or else, based on their financial resources, they should still be able to invite reinforcements.”

However, as this information flashed across Lin Dong’s mind, a person nearby smiled and said towards the person beside him.

“Black Python Mountain?”

When he heard these words, Lin Dong’s footsteps suddenly paused as he furrowed his eyebrows. He did not expect that Yue Shan was so well-connected and was still able to secure reinforcements at such a time. Furthermore, from the looks of it, it seems like he intended to put his life on the line for this fight. If he truly managed to defeat the Thousand Gold Association, the status of the Blood Wolf Gang in Yan City would soar.

Even the Thousand Gold Association would find it extremely difficult resist the combined forces of three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners. Although they could hire reinforcements, it would still take time to prepare. Based on the Blood Wolf Gang's actions, it seems like Yue Shan had long finished preparations even before he attempted to ambush the Thousand Gold Association at Sky Flame Mountain Range.

This cunning fellow had even prepared for the worst case scenario. Therefore, one could only imagine the effort it took to hire the two heads from Black Python Mountain. It seems like this time around, they truly intended on struggling to the death against the Thousand Gold Association.

“This Yue Shan is truly a troublesome fellow...”

Lin Dong muttered to himself. This fellow was truly crafty. Within a few hundred mile radius of Yan City, there were several powerful dark factions as well. Against this kind of opponents, even the Thousand Gold Association would find it to be pretty challenging. Most importantly, in terms of viciousness and mercilessness, merchant associations like them naturally could not compare to the Blood Wolf Gang.

However, the more troubles Yue Shan caused, the more Lin Dong could not relax and leave Yan City peacefully. Else, once he returned, this entire Yan City may have been conquered by the Blood Wolf Gang. At that time, his Lin Family would naturally suffer.

This matter was something that he could not tolerate.

“I want to see if the reinforcement you have brought this time will be enough to save your life!”

As he coldly snorted in his heart, Lin Dong’s palm lightly patted Little Flame. The latter released a roar, as the crowd in front hurriedly made way for them. Little Flame transformed into a fiery-red shadow, as it dashed lightning-quick across the broad streets. Under the astonished gazes of the crowd, the shadow quickly disappeared.

This time, Lin Dong had made up his mind to exterminate the Blood Wolf Gang. Plus, he would definitely take Yue Shan’s life!

Chapter 188: Bloody Battle

Outside the Thousand Gold Association headquarters, the usually bustling atmosphere had now been replaced by a tense air. A large menacing army tightly surrounded the area. Similarly, there were a huge number of troops inside the headquarters. The scale of this event caused one to involuntarily lick one's lips. After all, ever since the Thousand Gold Association and the Blood Wolf Gang rose to power, they had restrained one another. Hence, a fight of this scale was exceedingly rare.

Nearby, a huge crowd swarmed around to watch the action. Many people were extremely interested in the final struggle between two of Yan City's top factions. After all, they understood that this battle would reset the pecking order in Yan City.

The Blood Wolf Gang was a vicious bunch. If they defeated the Thousand Gold Association, they would not leave them with any opportunity to survive. Moreover, once the Blood Wolf Gang defeated the Thousand Gold Association, the Blood Wolf Gang's reputation would instantly soar.

“The Thousand Gold Association has miscalculated this time. Originally, they thought that it would be sufficient to recruit some of the other factions from the city. However, they never expected that their opponent would hire the two heads of that Black Python Mountain. Those two are after all perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners.”

“Yeah, those fellows from Yan City are all wimps. At first, they thought that the Blood Wolf Gang was weaker and agreed to help.

Now that the Blood Wolf Gang has found reinforcements, all of them quickly switched to a neutral stance. These so-called allies of the the Thousand Gold Association are truly unreliable.”

“Well, you can’t blame them entirely. The fault lies with how vicious the Blood Wolf Gang was. They actually invited two perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners to assist them in an instant. It is even said that they nearly exhausted all their reserves to hire these two fellows.”

“As long as they can defeat the Thousand Gold Association, they can recoup all these losses.. Heh heh, Yue Shan is really cunning, he completely understands the principle of going all-out.”

“.....”

The huge crowd flooded the area around the heavily confined Thousand Gold Association. Meanwhile, silent whispers began to spread out.

While these whispers spread, at the head of the troops surrounding the Thousand Gold Association, were three men seated on horses. One of them was Yue Shan, while the other two were dressed in black and looked somewhat similar. From the looks of it, they should have some blood relations with each other.

Right now, the two of them were smiling as they looked at that luxurious Thousand Gold Association headquarters, an unconcealable greed in their eyes. The two of them loved these so-called merchant associations. After all, these fellows were not only

easy to handle, but they were extremely rich.

These two were the heads from the Black Python Mountain, and they were called Han Zong and Han Sheng. Within a few hundred mile radius of Yan City, these two individuals were considered as elites. Hence, any merchant that passed through their territory would automatically hand over the road tax. In fact, their reputation did not lose out to the top three factions in Yan City. Perhaps, due to their vicious methods, their reputations may even exceed the latter's.

“Haha, don't worry. The Thousand Gold Association will not survive this day. At that time, eighty percent of everything will be yours!” When he saw their expressions, Yue Shan involuntarily laughed.

As he spoke, a malicious glint flashed across Yue Shan's eyes. Previously, his Blood Wolf Gang had been constantly bullied by the Thousand Gold Association and his territory was continuously decreasing. Thankfully, he had some connections with the underground society within a few hundred mile radius of Yan City. Though this was so, in order to hire these two fellows, he had used nearly all his wits and money. In fact, he had even promised to allocate them eighty percent of the Thousand Gold Association's fortune. Overall, this was an extremely tempting deal.

Of course, this final measure was forced by the Thousand Gold Association!

If this was not such a critical juncture, even Yue Shan did not have the determination to burn all escape paths.

“Xia Wanjin, since you want to exterminate my Blood Wolf Gang, today, I shall destroy you first!” Yue Shan stared menacingly as the Thousand Gold Association headquarters. Today, he had absolute confidence in himself. Three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners. Even in the entire Yan City, who could match up to this lineup?

“After I destroy the Thousand Gold Association, I will exterminate the Lin Family. That kid dared to interfere in my matters so many times, I will not forgive him!” As he recalled his originally perfect ambush that was disrupted by Lin Dong, Yue Shan’s heart became enraged. If it was not for Lin Dong, how could he be forced into such a predicament.

“Sect leader, the troops are fully assembled. However, our scouts report that the Lin Family seems to have sent quite a number of helpers as well.” While the menacing glint flashed across Yue Shan’s eyes, a scout suddenly reported.

“A mere Lin Family dares to assist them. They must have swallowed a leopard’s guts. Liu Chong, bring a group of men and stop them. No need to be merciful, kill them all!” Yue Shan abruptly turned around, as he looked at one of his advanced Yuan Dan stage subordinates and commanded.

Yes!

After hearing these words, that tall and sturdy man instantly grinned maliciously. With a wave of his hand, he commanded a small troop and departed immediately.

“Kill! Today, we will exterminate the Thousand Gold Association!”

After he sent out this small troop, Yue Shan’s attention once again returned to the Thousand Gold Association. With a malicious smile, he suddenly lifted his hand and viciously swung it down. An extremely powerful roar filled with murderous intent instantly set off the tension inside the ground.

“Boom!”

After Yue Shan yelled out, the Blood Wolf Gang’s troops gushed forth like a tidal wave. War cries echoed forth, as they angrily dashed towards the Thousand Gold Association headquarters, that had been fortified like a golden soup.

As they stared at that fierce battle that had begun, several of the onlookers’ facial expression began to change. This Blood Wolf Gang is indeed ferocious.

However, even though the Blood Wolf Gang’s attack was extremely fierce, the Thousand Gold Association’s resistance was equally formidable, and they managed to forcefully keep out the Blood Wolf Gang troops without yielding a single inch.

“The two of you, it seems like the Thousand Gold Association is still quite capable. I am afraid I may require your assistance later.” When he saw the Thousand Gold Association’s tight defense, Yue Shan furrowed his eyebrows, as he cupped his hands towards the

Han brothers and said.

“Haha, no problem. Since we have accepted your money, we will get rid of your troubles. Furthermore, brother Yue Shan and us go a long way back. Naturally, we will assist you!” When they heard his words, that Han duo laughed.

Yue Shan was all smiles as well. However, inside his heart he was gnashing his teeth. Even though he had managed to invite the two of them this time, they were indeed as dishonorable as their reputation claimed. Not only did the two of them not agree to willingly help because of their familiarity, they instead directly raised the required compensation several fold. Yet, at this juncture, Yue Shan did not dare to object and he could only silent grit his teeth and swallow the anger inside his heart.

“After I am finished with the Thousand Gold Association, it will be your turn!”

Even though they were despicable, they knew the importance of fulfilling one's end of the promise after accepting payment. Furthermore, Yue Shan had promised them riches from Thousand Gold Association which would only be received after they took care of the latter. Therefore, it was pointless for them to slack off now.

Hence, after they agreed with Yue Shan, the two of them waved their hands. Immediately, hundreds of figures swiftly followed behind. These men were all carrying large sabres on the backs and looked extremely cruel. One glance and one could tell that these were no ordinary fellows.

“Brothers, draw your blades and do it. This one job is equivalent to ten years of work!” Han Zong chuckled as he immediately led the way. As he released the forceful aura of a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner, a blade shadow that was several meters wide exploded forth with a formidable wind sound and heavily slashed against the main entrance of the Thousand Gold Association headquarters.

“Boom!”

Just as that blade shadow was about to hit the main door, another powerful force swept forth from within the Thousand Gold Association and heavily collided against it, successfully withstanding the attack.

A strong wind arose from the epicenter, as a figure stood atop the headquarters and stared coldly at the Han duo, before he shouted: “These two heads, my Thousand Gold Association had some dealings with you in the past, why must you drive us to such a sorry state?”

“Heh, blame your Thousand Gold Association for having too much wealth. We brothers are jealous and we want to take it!” Han Zong released a weird laugh as he signalled to Han Sheng, who was standing nearby. The two of them dashed forth simultaneously, one on the left and the other on the right as they surrounded Xia Wanjin. Based on their actions, the two of them wanted to kill Xia Wanjin together.

When they saw this sight, inside the headquarters, Xuansu's, Xia Zhilan's and the rest's facial expressions changed. If anything happened to Xia Wanjin, the morale of the Thousand Gold Association would surely plummet.

“Boom Boom!”

Three figures crossed blows in mid-air as a powerful Yuan Power shockwave spread out like a tidal wave. Faced with the two perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners, Xia Wanjin was unable to gain much advantage. It was not long before he found himself at the losing end, barely able to cling on.

When he saw Xia Wanjin struggling, a light smile surfaced on Yue Shan's face. Three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners. How could a mere Thousand Gold Association resist such a formidable formation?

“Hurry up and attack. Overcome the Thousand Gold Association's defenses!” Yue Shan saw a gradual opening in the defense, as he signalled with his palm and coldly shouted out.

“Bang!”

Just as Yue Shan roared, a sudden commotion erupted from behind him. Immediately, rows of Blood Wolf Gang troops flew backwards and landed on the ground.

“What is going on?” This sudden development shocked Yue

Shan, as he shouted out with a dark expression on his face.

“Sect Leader, the Lin Family has charged in!” A person hurriedly said.

“How is that possible? What about Liu Chong?” When he heard these words, Yue Shan’s facial expression changed. He had sent so many skilled practitioners over, how could they fail to stop a mere Lin Family?

“Sinecure Liu has been killed!” That person mournfully replied.

When he heard these words, Yue Shan’s heart sank. In the Lin Family, there was no one who could kill an advanced Yuan Dan stage practitioner. The only one who could do that was Lin Dong, who had already left for Sky Flame Mountain Range.

“Don’t tell me...”

Yue Shan’s eyes were dark as he slowly turned his head, and stared at the crowd in a distance. At that area, his Blood Wolf Gang troops were being crushed at an extremely quick rate.

As his Blood Wolf Gang’s troops were being destroyed, a figure carrying a long halberd was steadily walking forward. In his passing, the ground was being dyed blood-red...

“Lin Dong!”

When he saw this figure, Yue Shan's face instantly turned green!

Chapter 189: One versus Three

The figure was like a shark tearing through the waves, as it gave off an unparalleled aura of ferocity, while ripping through row after row Blood Wolf Gang troops.

Behind the figure, the troops of the Lin Family swiftly followed. However, with that single figure in front enduring all the pressure, the lines which had already been ripped apart were generally unable to stop their advance. Thus, in a short few minutes, they managed to charge through.

“Is that the Lin Family troops?”

“To think that they actually dared to interfere in this confrontation, such arrogance.”

“That person at the front is so powerful, even the advanced Yuan Dan stage Liu Chong was directly killed with a single blow of his halberd.”

“That should be Lin Dong right? I heard that he was the one who crippled Gui Yan from the Ghost Blade Sect previously. However, the Blood Wolf Gang has three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners this time, it is not very wise of him to appear now.”

“Looks like the victories he obtained the previous few times caused this kid to overestimate himself.”

In response to the numerous whispers of the crowd, the footsteps of the figure did not pause at all. His apathetically gazed at the layers of Blood Wolf Gang troops he had passed, before looking further down towards Yue Shan, who was seated on horseback with a gloomy expression, as he stared at the former.

“Bang!”

The ancient halberd in his hand lightly waved, as it directly blew away several murderous looking Blood Wolf Gang members, causing them to vomit blood as they flew backwards. The tip of Lin Dong’s foot pushed off the ground, as his figure leapt into the air. Under the numerous gazes of the crowd, he landed in between the Blood Wolf Gang and Thousand Gold Association, as his ancient halberd heavily slammed onto the ground, causing a strong gale to swiftly spread out, directly pushing back the Blood Wolf Gang troops.

“Lin Dong!”

As expected, the person who suddenly appeared drew cheers from the Thousand Gold Association headquarters. They had seen Lin Dong’s capabilities in the Sky Flame Mountain Range before. Currently, the former was already able to contend against a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner. Although the Blood Wolf Gang’s momentum was a little overwhelming, this was still a substantial help.

“Lin Dong, you’ve ruined my plans time and time again. I will not let you off so easily!” Yue Shan sternly declared as he glared at Lin Dong.

“This will be the final time.” Lin Dong chuckled and softly said: “This time, I will completely wipe out the Blood Wolf Gang.”

“Haha, arrogant fellow. My Blood Wolf Gang has three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners this time, who do you think you are!” Upon hearing these words, Yue Shan immediately sneered.

Lin Dong smiled, as he took a look at Xia Wanjin, who was being cornered by the two heads from the Black Python Mountain. Three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners, this line-up was indeed not weak. However, they were truly not too much of a threat towards him now. Though he would find it very troublesome when faced with an opponent like Wang Pan, Yue Shan and the rest were not on the same level as Wang Pan after all.

“Lin Dong has appeared as expected.”

When Lin Dong appeared, several figures were observing the situation from a tall building nearby.

Among this group were some familiar faces, which included grandmaster Yan and Ziyue. At this moment, a middle-aged man whose face was as white as jade was standing in front of Ziyue. He smiled as he watched the figures in a distance and said: “The Blood Wolf Gang has indeed gone all out this time, will Lin Dong be able to save them from this crisis?”

“Hehe, does the city lord not plan to step in? If the Blood Wolf Gang really exterminates the Thousand Gold Association, the

balance in Yan City will be broken.” To one side, grandmaster Yan chuckled as he said.

In response, the middle-aged man in purple merely let out a laugh and did not reply.

“Today, I want to find out exactly where does a brat like you get his courage from!” Blood flowed everywhere. Yue Shan grabbed onto a dark broadsword, as the vigorous Yuan Power within his body gushed out like a wave.

“Bang!”

Yue Shan’s expression was dark, wielding his bloody blade, his body leapt off his horse as a formidable blade shadow mercilessly chopped down on Lin Dong.

Faced with this powerful attack which caused the surrounding air to hum, Lin Dong did not back down even the slightest bit. The ancient halberd in his hand abruptly rose up, and thrust forward, emitting a scarlet glow as it forcibly scattered the blade shadow.

Upon seeing that his attack was actually so effortlessly dispelled by Lin Dong, Yue Shan was taken aback. However, before his mind could completely process this thought, Lin Dong suddenly took stamped off the ground, as he violently swept forward. The ancient halberd in his hand transformed into numerous halberd images which violently thrust out.

“Clang clang!”

At the sight of the assaulting halberd images, Yue Shan did not dare to be negligent, he hastily urged the Yuan Power in his body, before heavily chopping at the halberd images. However, in the instant the two forces clashed, his expression immediately turned to extreme astonishment. This was because he had felt the terrifying power within the seemingly illusionary halberd images. This kind of power was incomparable to an ordinary perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner!

“Crack!”

After clashing against merely two of Lin Dong’s halberd images, to his horror, Yue Shan found that cracks had unexpectedly appeared on the broadsword which he had covered with Pure Yuangang energy. How could ordinary weapons be able to face Lin Dong’s Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd.

Lin Dong did not give Yue Shan too much time, he clearly wanted to speedily finish this battle. The halberd in his hand paused, and directly ripped through the air like a metal rod, ruthlessly smashing into Yue Shan’s bloody blade. Immediately, a sharp and clear sound rang out in mid-air. Under numerous astonished gazes, the bloody blade in Yue Shan’s hand was directly broken into many pieces.

“Bang!”

Moreover, when the bloody blade was broken, an extremely

powerful force travelled through the bloody blade and mercilessly slammed into Yue Shan's chest. The latter's complexion instantly turned white, as he violently vomited a mouthful of fresh blood, before heavily falling to the ground and cutting an exceedingly sorry figure.

The end of the battle was unexpectedly quick. When the crowd saw Yue Shan being utterly defeated after a few moves from Lin Dong, the area momentarily lapsed into silence. The numerous whispers from before also completely stopped, as gazes filled with extreme astonishment turned towards the sorry figure of Yue Shan one by one.

Defeated just like this?

Was the one known as one of the top practitioners in Yan City, the sect leader of the Blood Wolf Gang, Yue Shan, so cleanly defeated by Lin Dong?

This scene caused an feeling of absurdness to arise in many people's hearts. Although they knew that Lin Dong already possessed the strength to fight against a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner not too long ago, the sight before their eyes was not a close fight, but a completely one-sided thrashing...

Furthermore, it was a complete loss, and even the weapon was directly smashed to bits. Was this not thorough enough?

"How is this possible?" Of course, the crowd was not the only ones who were unable to comprehend what had happened. Even

the person in question, Yue Shan, had a face full of disbelief. He had personally witnessed Lin Dong defeating Song Dao in the Sky Flame Mountain Range, but it was only after a desperate battle before achieving a fluke victory. Yet, now...

Lin Dong stood atop a sword as he floated in mid-air. The ancient halberd in his hand faintly sparkled, as he calmly gazed down at the astonished face of Yue Shan. Lightly stepping forward, a powerful aura rippled outwards and slowly spread out.

“Perfect Yuan Dan stage!”

When they sensed the powerful aura that was gushing out from Lin Dong’s body, gasps immediately sounded out from below. No one expected that the former had actually advanced to the perfect Yuan Dan stage in less than a month!

“The halberd in that guy’s hands is a little strange, or else even if he has reached the perfect Yuan Dan level, he would not be able to so easily defeat me!” Yue Shan’s expression fluctuated. Soon after, his gaze suddenly shifted to the Han duo, who were suppressing Xia Wanjin, as he sternly shouted: “Brother Han Zong, there is a tough one here, we need to join hands!”

Upon hearing Yue Shan’s shout, Han Zong’s and Han Sheng’s expressions slightly changed. What kind of opponent would actually require the three of them to team up? Could it possibly be a practitioner at the Creation stage?

As this thought turned around in their minds, the duo suddenly

dished out an extremely well-coordinated attack. The formidable attack directly caused the already losing Xia Wanjin to spit out a mouthful of fresh blood. With a flash, the duo swept back and appeared beside Yue Shan, as their cold eyes looked towards Lin Dong.

“This brat?” When the Han duo saw that the tough one Yue Shan had spoke of seemed to be a youngster, their eyebrows involuntarily furrowed, as they somewhat suspiciously asked.

“This brat is also at the perfect Yuan Dan stage, plus, the halberd in his hands should be a Soul Treasure, it’s extremely powerful!” Yue Shan wiped off the blood at the corner of his mouth as he said.

“Soul Treasure?”

Upon hearing these words, a greedy look almost instantaneously surfaced in the Han duo’s eyes, as they fervently stared at the halberd in Lin Dong’s hands. They had naturally heard of Soul Treasures before, however, this kind of item too rare, even they had never owned one before.

“Attack together and kill him first!” Han Zong darkly said. Although Lin Dong wielded a Soul Treasure, the three of them were after all three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners. It would not be difficult for them to kill the latter with their combined might.

“Boom!”

With regards to Han Zong's words, Yue Shan and Han Sheng did not object at all as they fiercely nodded. At the same time, three powerful undulations directly gushed forth from the trio's bodies. This aura was extremely attention grabbing.

"Yue Shan and the rest want to gang up on him!"

"Truly marvelous, this is the first time I've seen such a formation, however, the fact that Yue Shan and the two heads were forced to combine forces means that Lin Dong is really powerful indeed."

"I wonder how long Lin Dong will be able to endure under the trio's combined might..."

This scene instantly drew an uproar from the crowd. Three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners allying against a youngster, this was the first time such a thing had occurred in Yan City.

"Little brother Lin Dong, I will help you!" When the injured Xia Wanjin saw this situation, his expression changed, as he wiped away the blood at his mouth and dashed forward.

"No need. Chairman Xia, it will be better for you to defend the headquarters. I can deal with these three."

However, in response to Xia Wanjin's good intentions, Lin Dong merely chuckled, as he pointed the tip of the halberd to the ground. A faint scarlet light seemed to flow on the ancient halberd.

“Arrogant!”

Upon seeing that Lin Dong had actually rejected Xia Wanjin’s aid, and chose to face Yue Shan and the other two by himself, many people slowly shook their heads in their hearts.

Chapter 190: Might of the Halberd Technique

Three exceptionally vigorous auras rippled across the area. Strong Yuan Power undulations were like a tide, as wave after wave crashed forth, causing quite a number of the nearby onlookers to be oppressed until they found breathing a little difficult.

Perfect Yuan Dan stage.

In the entire Yan City, this level was at the absolute pinnacle of strength. Yet now three people at this level had a one off alliance. This sight caused quite a few people's blood to boil.

Many wanted to know how strong the combined powers of three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners would be.

“Facing off against three people by himself, it seems that every time he appears, Lin Dong's strength will have risen substantially...” On a building in the distance, the middle-aged man with a face that was white as jade watched as astonishment flitted across his eyes.

“This trio of Yue Shan's are all vicious and merciless characters and their battle experience is extremely plentiful. I'm afraid that it will be somewhat difficult for Lin Dong to face all three of them alone.” Grandmaster Yan furrowed his eyebrows as he said.

“Hehe, that might not be so. Though he has yet to reach the Form Creation stage, even I feel a little danger from him...” The middle-aged man softly chuckled.

“Oh?” Upon hearing this, grandmaster Yan’s expression slightly changed. He knew that the man before him had successfully advanced to the Form Creation stage two years ago. He did not expect that even a practitioner of this calibre would say something like this. Looks like Lin Dong’s progress in the last month was extremely huge.

Behind the two of them, Ziyue’s beautiful eyes somewhat peculiarly stared at the scene. There, the youngster held his ancient halberd in the reverse direction, as he faced three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners joyfully and without fear. This kind of composure was truly admirable.

...

“Do we truly not need to help Lin Dong?” In the Thousand Gold Association headquarters, Xuansu gazed outside, her umber-black eyebrows knitting together as she worriedly asked.

“Lin Dong is not a reckless person. Don’t worry, if anything happens, I will definitely step in!” Xia Wanjin replied in a low voice. While he was speaking, his eyebrows also slightly furrowed. Although he had always thought extremely highly of Lin Dong, this time, the opponents were three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners...

...

Under countless burning gazes, three vigorous auras pushed down on Lin Dong, yet his expression remained calm. The Yuan Power undulations from his body was still gentle and did not become disorderly from nervousness in the face of the trio's combined might.

Three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners. If this was before, perhaps Lin Dong would truly have a headache, however, after his trip to the old tomb, and after meeting Lin Langtian, Wang Yan and the rest of the practitioners who were famed even in the entire Great Yan Empire, the perfect Yuan Dan stage clearly no longer caused Lin Dong much fear. Of course, this was not blind contempt, but rather he had the ability to genuinely possess such an attitude.

Given Lin Dong's current strength, although he would find practitioners like Wang Yan who were at the Form Creation stage especially troublesome, among the perfect Yuan Dan stage, he dared to declare that no one would be his match. Although his opponents were many this time, the final outcome...would be difficult to change.

“Attack!”

The trio's auras continuously surged, as the killing intent in their eyes intensified. Suddenly, all three of their expressions simultaneously turned dark, as they stepped forward and transformed into three blurry shadows. As they dashed forth, menacing attacks instantly targeted all of Lin Dong's vital points.

As he faced the formidable attacks of the trio, Lin Dong merely chuckled, choosing not to retreat but to advance. As he waved the ancient halberd in his hand, three halberd shadows ripped apart the air, and viciously pierced towards their throats with a low sonic boom.

“Clang clang clang!”

The weapons in the trio’s hands were wrapped with an extremely rich pure Yuangang Energy. When they heavily collided against the incoming halberd shadows, sparks and a crisp sound immediately exploded forth.

“Bang!”

Due to the simultaneous explosions coupled with the resulting extremely violent Yuan Power shockwaves, everyone in a thirty meter radius were pushed backwards as they hastily retreated. Furthermore, that formidable wind generated caused them to be unable to breath.

“Humph!”

After forcibly intercepting Lin Dong’s attack, the facial expressions on the Yue Shan trio changed once again. Lin Dong’s ancient halberd was just like a mountain, the strength behind each of his attacks was extremely astonishing. If they had not prepared beforehand and wrapped their weapons with layer upon layer of pure Yuangang Energy, their weapons would have already been

destroyed by Lin Dong.

“Mountain Fist!”

With a solemn expression, Yue Shan suddenly kept his weapons and changed to his fists. Immediately, a punch was heavily delivered as the pure Yuangang Energy inside his body erupted from his fist like a volcano. The vigorous pure Yuangang Energy faintly took the shape of a mountain, as it carried an extremely oppressive force and ruthlessly attacked the top of Lin Dong’s head.

“Ground Splitting Kill!”

When Yue Shan attacked, the Yuan Power in the Han duo also violently gushed forth, as a punch was viciously delivered to the ground before them. Vigorous Yuan Power instantly blended into the ground in a peculiar fashion, as the ground in front of them was forcefully split apart. Two Yuan Power tornados, together with large amount of soil quickly intertwined, tearing apart the ground as they dashed towards Lin Dong.

The trio’s attacks almost instantaneously became extremely formidable. One from below and the other from above. Two killing moves with extremely malicious killing intent. Evidently, they planned to finish off Lin Dong as quickly as possible!

Even though the trio were only at the perfect Yuan Dan stage, since they had advanced to that stage for quite some time, they had begun to grasp some form creation abilities. Now that they had

utilized their full strength, their combined attack was truly formidable and it captivated the gazes of several people in the crowd.

Lin Dong stared at that formidable attack that was growing rapidly in his pupils. However, his face remained totally calm. The ancient halberd in his hand gently tapped the ground, moments later, the halberd slowly leaned forward. With a sudden jerk of his arm, a peculiar buzzing sound echoed forth from the ancient halberd, while a scarlet red glow quietly enshrouded it.

“Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd, fish scale halberd!”

A formidable look flashed across his calm eyes. Faced the trio's vicious combined attack, Lin Dong did not retreat. Rather, to the crowd's astonishment, he took a step forward as a scarlet red glow instantly exploded from the ancient halberd in his hand. Then, this the light grew brighter and directly turned into a giant vicious-looking scarlet red fish!

“Is this... the Form Creation stage?” As they stared at the sinister life-like giant fish, shocked gasps instantly exploded out from the crowd. Lin Dong's Yuan Power form creation was several times stronger than the Yue Shan trio.

“How is this possible?!” Yue Shan was similarly shocked, as waves churned in his heart.

“It is because of the Soul Treasure in his possession. Based on his strength, he cannot materialize such an attack that can match up

to a Form Creation stage practitioner!” Han Zong’s expression was dark as he shouted out.

“Boom!”

Under the shocked gazes of the crowd, the hideous-looking giant fish that was wrapped in vigorous Yuan Power heavily slammed against the Yue Shan trio’s combined attack. Instantly, a loud sound rang out, as an exceptionally violent wind swept outwards. Several people were caught off guard, as their bodies were directly flipped over, an extremely awkward position.

“Bang bang!”

The Yue Shan trio’s combined attack did not manage to hold off that sinister life-like giant fish for long, before being forcefully blown apart. Then, the giant fish, which was now slightly dimmer and less life-like after a strenuous struggle, still carried a formidable glow as it ruthlessly slammed against the Yue Shan trio’s bodies.

“Plop!”

When their bodies personally experienced the attack, the Yue Shan trio finally understood how terrifying it was. The defences on their bodies instantly crumbled as their Qi and blood churned in their bodies. They each vomited a mouthful of fresh blood, as their bodies were just like a kite with a broken string, which wildly flew backwards and heavily landed on the ground.

“Sss!”

Upon seeing the Yue Shan trio unexpectedly fall after a single move from Lin Dong, a series of gasps sounded out, and morale of the troops from the Blood Wolf Gang also plummeted.

“Swish!”

Han Zong’s sorry figure fell to the ground, a ferocious glint flitted across his eyes as he wiped away the blood at the corner of his mouth.

“Tch!”

The ancient halberd in Lin Dong’s hands touched the ground, as he gazed towards the three sorry figures that had fallen to the ground. His eyebrows suddenly furrowed, as his powerful Mental Energy sensed an extremely tiny yet dangerous attack was quickly closing in.

“Bang!”

His gaze flickered, as the ancient halberd in Lin Dong’s hand suddenly and viciously slammed into the ground before him. A faintly golden Yuan Power shockwave that could be seen with the naked eye erupted forth, as the ground several meters before Lin Dong actually exploded. A faintly yellow glow was forcefully pushed out of the ground, transforming into a ray of light, as it tore through the air at an extremely frightening speed, emitting an

aura that slightly scared even Lin Dong, and shot towards him.

“Dong!”

The ancient halberd stabbed out, as its tip rapidly rotated, transforming into a vortex which coiled around the yellow glow, while neutralizing its power.

As the vortex dispelled the power, the yellow glow quickly dimmed, before finally transforming into a small dagger-like object, which was about the size of a thumb and completely deep yellow.

Lin Dong sensed an exceedingly sharp aura from this tiny object. This thing would have opened a bloody hole even in someone like himself if he had been shot. Most importantly, this object was almost undetectable, an excellent tool for mounting a sneak attack.

“Low ranked Soul Treasure...”

Lin Dong extended a finger and pressed onto this thumb-sized sawtooth blade, as he felt an icy sensation that caused his hand to tremble a little. Astonishment flitted across his eyes, as he smiled towards the deathly pale Han Zong and said: “I did not think that you actually had a treasure like this. Since that is so, it would be inappropriate of me not to help myself.”

As his words were spoken, his hand flipped and the sawtooth blade was kept into his Qiankun bag. When Han Zong saw this, the

sight before his eyes momentarily turned black, as he once again vomited a mouthful of fresh blood. This Moyun Blade was his Black Python Mountain's most precious treasure!

Chapter 191: Resolved

While keeping the small black sawtooth blade into his Qiankun bag, the brand concealed within it was also directly erased by Lin Dong's vigorous Mental Energy.

“Moyun Blade!”

As they felt their connection with the Moyun Blade completely fade away, the Han duo instantly turned ashen-faced. Over these years, the reason why they were able to be so successful, such that even some perfect Yuan Dan practitioners dare not offend them at all, was mostly due to the Moyun Blade. Although it was only a low ranked Soul Treasure, it was extremely effective for sneak attacks. If one was not careful, even a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners would be killed in one hit!

However, the usually successful Moyun Blade seemed to have encountered some troubles today. Not only was the sneak attack sensed by Lin Dong, he had also thoroughly erased the brand within it.

Hence, they had basically lost their trump card. In response, indications of their eyes turning blood red immediately appeared.

“Kill this bastard!”

While the duo were ashen-faced, Yue Shan wiped away the blood at the corner of his mouth, unable to deal with shock Lin Dong's powerful attack had on the three of them, as he sternly shouted

out. He understood very well that if he failed again this time, he would truly never be able to regain his footing here.

If he struggled, there might still be some hope, but if he didn't, it would mean certain death!

“Bang!”

The fact that Yue Shan was able to become the sect leader of the Blood Wolf Gang meant that he had some charisma, thus he shouted out almost immediately. He clearly understood that Lin Dong's previous attack had already caused the Han duo to become fearful in their hearts. If he shows any signs of wanting to retreat now, these two guys would likely flee even quicker than himself. At that time, without their aid, he could not possibly threaten Lin Dong at all by himself!

As Yue Shan had expected, the Han duo were currently a little red eyed from the heartache of losing the Moyun Blade, thus, when they saw him fearlessly charge forward, heat rushed to their heads. They slapped the ground and once again shot forward, vigorous Yuan Power gushing forth and once again charging towards Lin Dong.

“Bang bang!”

Though the trio were resisting, at times, in the face of true power, this so-called resistance was useless. Therefore, just as the three charging figures were several meters from Lin Dong, their sorry figures were forced back by the formidable halberd, such

that even lines of wounds were left on their chests. Blood dripped from these wounds, wetting a large portion of their clothes.

One by one, gazes were filled with astonishment as they turned towards the figure which had yet to moved from the spot, but instead using the halberd in his hands to push the Yue Shan trio to such a sorry state.

Many people here still remembered how much Lin Dong had struggled just to defeat one Wei Tong. Yet, it was barely a year since then, and he now had already grown so powerful. If the departed Wei Tong knew this, he would likely have felt extremely gratified that at least his lost was only natural.

“Bang!”

Three figures flew backwards, drawing three trails of blood which were dozens of meters long. This time, they no longer had ferocious expressions as they struggled back onto their feet again. In the depths of their eyes, dread started to surface. Their desperate combined attack were actually unable to cause Lin Dong to take even a half a step back, instead, as they resisted, the wounds on their bodies only increased.

As they gazed at the calm halberd wielding youngster, a sense of defeat surfaced in the Yue Shan trio's hearts. Evidently, even their combined might was unable to achieve much effect against the former's strength.

“I've left a disaster behind after all...”

Yue Shan's heart was full of bitterness. Although he had long wanted to get rid of Lin Dong, he had underestimated the latter's growth rate. Originally, he had thought that even though Lin Dong's talent was not ordinary, he would need at least two years to reach the stage where he could threaten Yue Shan. However, the reality before him today allowed him to understand that he had overestimated this period of time by several times.

"He definitely cannot hold out for long, as long as we endure, we will definitely whittle him to death!" His gaze flickered as Yue Shan suddenly sternly said once again.

As his stern shout left his mouth, Yue Shan's body violently shot forward again. Beside him, the Han duo also launched themselves forward as a conditioned reflex. However, as the duo reached their top speed, they suddenly realized that Yue Shan's figure had turned around and was flying in the opposite direction.

This scene cause the Han duo to be a little taken aback. Soon after, they quickly regained their wits, as their expressions immediately turned extremely ugly.

"Bastard!"

The duo furiously cursed out, this Yue Shan obviously planned to escape, leaving the two to bring up the rear. This was one of the things the two brothers loved to do, they did not expect that they would actually be able to enjoy what it was like on the receiving end.

Though they had some ties with Yue Shan, it was far from the stage where they would die for him. Thus, when they saw Yue Shan flee, the duo also simultaneously turned around, but just as they were planning to escape, a figure swept past them from over their heads, as a formidable wind ruthlessly slammed into their chests.

“Plop!”

A frightening power erupted in that moment, causing the Han duo to wildly vomit out a mouthful of blood, such that even their chests caved in a little, before they were blown backwards and smashed into the Thousand Gold Association headquarters. They lay on the ground, twitching and bleeding like two dead dogs.

“Tie them up!”

When he saw the duo being beaten until they were practically paralyzed, the corner's of Xia Wanjin's eyes twitched for a moment before he shouted out in a low voice. Immediately, a huge group of Thousand Gold Association troops rushed forward and tightly secured the Han duo.

“Lin Dong is... truly terrifying, he obtained absolute dominance even against three opponents. With such strength, who else can be his match among the perfect Yuan Dan stage?”

Upon seeing the Han duo powerless to resist as they were arrested, Xia Wanjin softly sighed in his heart. He increasingly felt

that his initial investment in Lin Dong was indeed the right decision.

“Yue Shan wants to flee again!” To one side, Xuansu’s beautiful eyes concentrated at the distance as she suddenly said.

If they failed this time, the Blood Wolf Gang would definitely be unable to survive. However, if Yue Shan managed to escape, it would be rather troublesome. After all, this man had considerable influence among the black societies in a hundred mile radius around Yan City. If he successfully fled, it would be a huge problem in the future.

“Lin Dong will not let him escape.” Xia Wanjin appeared rather calm. From the methods used on Wei Tong and Gui Yan, Xia Wanjin knew that Lin Dong was a person who would never allow loose ends. Furthermore, the threat was Yue Shan was even greater than Wei Tong and the rest. Lin Dong absolutely would not allow Yue Shan to successfully escape and bring trouble again in the future.

Upon hearing this, Xuansu also softly sighed and nodded her head.

While the two of them were chatting, Yue Shan’s figure had already swiftly exited the area. While he was fleeing, the Blood Wolf Gang troops also fled in all directions. For a time, this area became extremely chaotic, while Yue Shan took this opportunity to hastily make distance.

Lin Dong gazed at the swiftly escaping figure with calm expression on his face. A sword swept under his feet as he body slowly floated. However, he stayed in mid-air and did not give any indication of chasing.

Although Lin Dong's actions caused some people to be a little astonished, due to the overwhelming power the he had demonstrated before, they did not dare to question him.

In the chaos, Yue Shan's figure managed to flee further and further. Moments later, only when he dashed into the chaotic crowds did he quietly sigh in relief, before leaning his head and looking at Lin Dong, who was hovering in mid-air a distance away, as a sinister look flashed across the former's eyes.

“Shitty brat, just wait. You have destroyed my Blood Wolf Gang, I, Yue Shan, will definitely ruin you and your family!” Yue Shan's venomously mumbled to himself. Of course, while these malicious thoughts churned in his head, his speed did not slow in the slightest. In a flash, he ran another dozen or so meters away.

“Bang!”

However, just as Yue Shan moved several meters after exiting the chaotic crowd, the ground before him suddenly exploded. Broken rocks flew upwards, as a barely discernible black shadow flitted across the corners of his eyes, bringing the faint smell of death with it.

When that black shadow flitted across the corners of his eyes, all

the hairs on Yue Shan's body stood on end. His years of experience allowed him to desperately urge the Yuan Power in his body to form thin layers of Yuan Power membranes in front of him.

“Pop pop pop!”

As the Yuan Power membranes formed, without waiting for Yue Shan to relax, the black shadow quietly arrived. Layers of seemingly sturdy Yuan Power membranes crumbled layer by layer...

The rate at which the Yuan Power membranes crumbled was frighteningly quick. In a mere few breaths, it tore apart the last layer of Yuan Power defence and appeared before the dismayed Yue Shan.

“No!”

This attack was extremely fierce and swift. As he gazed at the black shadow which rapidly enlarged in his eyes, a plea hastily sounded out from Yue Shan's throat.

“Plop!”

Just as the sound left his mouth, a tiny noise rang out, as the black shadow directly pierced through his throat, leaving a pillar of blood in its wake. Meanwhile, Yue Shan's body turned rigid as it fell.

“Bang!”

Yue Shan’s body slowly fell, before heavily slamming into the ground. A low sound caused quite a few gazes to be cast over. However, when they saw Yue Shan lying in a pool of blood, the sounds from their mouths were practically cut off in an instant...

The scene suddenly lapsed into silence. Everyone’s minds were blank as they stared at the corpse that was slowly turning stiff and cold. The top practitioner who had terrorized Yan City for about a dozen years, the sect leader of the Blood Wolf Gang, had now died in such a way?

In the silence, Lin Dong raised his palm, as the black shadow returned, before transforming into a small black sawtooth blade and appeared in his hand. This was the low ranked Soul Treasure he had snatched from the Han duo, the Moyun Blade.

“Not bad...”

Lin Dong looked down at the object in his hand, as the corners of his mouth lifted in a smile. The once greatest threat had finally been resolved today.

Chapter 192: Fall of the Blood Wolf Gang

The news of Yue Shan's assassination blew across the scene like wind. The Blood Wolf Gang troop's will to fight practically vanished in an instant, together with their previous ferociousness. In their place, was an endless panic.

Everyone knew that with the loss of Yue Shan, it would be difficult for the Blood Wolf Gang to establish themselves in Yan City again. Furthermore, under the furious counter-attack of the Thousand Gold Association, it was likely that the former would be completely cleaned out from Yan City.

This top faction which had towered over Yan City for about a dozen years was now completely defeated, and the one who had caused this change was merely a youngster who was not even twenty years of age...

As they gazed at the halberd wielding figure which slowly landed on the ground, everyone could feel the solemn aura from his body. Shimmering in his eyes, was a heart palpitating and icy glint.

On his own, he could fight against three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners. With such strength, even in this entire Yan City, who could hope to match up against him?

While Lin Dong's body landed, most of the Blood Wolf Gang troops had already started to flee for their lives, with the exception of a few resisting famed elites.

Naturally, the Thousand Gold Association would not give up this opportunity to chase them down. Their battered main entrance suddenly jutted open, as a large group of infuriated Thousand Gold Association troops gushed forth like a tidal wave. Full of killing intent, they hunted down the Blood Wolf Gang troops that were now fleeing for their lives. Some of these obstinate fighters were directly drowned by this tidal wave.

Yue Shan's death very clearly demonstrated 'defeat by a landslide'. That seemingly invincible Blood Wolf Gang was quickly decimated in mere minutes, suffering major casualties due to the Thousand Gold Association's efforts.

With regards to hunting down the remaining Blood Wolf Gang members, Lin Dong was not too interested in it. After all, these matters would be deftly handled by the Thousand Gold Association. He slowly walked towards Yue Shan's body, which was lying in a pool of blood, as he stared at the man, who was once a tyrant in Yan City, with calm eyes. He clearly understood how vicious this man was, hence, this time around, he could not afford to let him live. Else, he would encounter more problems down the road.

While Lin Dong was staring at Yue Shan's corpse, the rest of the Lin Family members swiftly huddled over. They stared at that ice-cold corpse, as a look of awe flashed across their eyes.

"Dong-er's abilities have far surpassed us."

Lin Zhentian stroked his beard as he looked to his side at Lin Dong. The expression on his face could not be described by mere

words. He had painstakingly worked for a good part of his life in order to establish his Lin Family in Qingyang town. However, once Lin Dong sprung up, in mere two years, their Lin Family had already managed to establish such a position for themselves in Yan City. Previously, this was something that he could not have imagined.

To one side, Lin Ken and the rest nodded their heads, before they said with a smile: “It seems like Dong-er has benefited substantially from the trip to the old tomb.”

Lin Dong chuckled. With a wave of his palm, he kept the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd into his Qiankun bag. Tilting his head towards Lin Zhentian and Lin Xiao, he mumbled to himself for a while before he said: “Grandpa, Father. This time, after the Blood Wolf Gang has been taken care of, I shall leave Yan City for a period of time.”

“Leave? Where to?” When they heard his words, Lin Zhentian and the rest were stunned.

“I will go to a place that will allow me to become even stronger.” Lin Dong was silent for a moment before he spoke. If it was not for the trip to the old tomb, perhaps he would be content to stay here and wait for the clan gathering, however... at that time, he would still be an ant in Lin Langtian’s eyes.

Even if the him at that time challenged Lin Langtian, the result would likely be similar to Lin Xiao in the past.

This was not a sight he wanted to see. After he saw how his spirited father was reduced to such a sorry state by Lin Langtian, defeating that latter had always been a goal in his mind. The matters that happened in the old tomb only served to amplify his desire to accomplish this goal.

In fact, in some ways, Lin Dong should thank Lin Langtian. That was because the latter led him to understand that there was still a huge distance between the two of them. Sometimes, it's not terrible to learn that there is still a gap between you and your opponents. Rather, it's scary when you only learn it after it's too late.

Thankfully, Lin Dong managed to discover the gap between him and Lin Langtian. Hence, this gave him the opportunity to play catch-up!

Furthermore, he once swore to defeat Lin Langtian!

During the clan gathering, he will defeat this legendary figure famed throughout the entire Yan Dynasty in front of everyone. Hence, in order to accomplish this, he was prepared to pay a huge sacrifice and work extremely hard!

“Dong-er, what happened? Did they slight you during the trip to the old tomb?” As Lin Dong's father, Lin Xiao evidently understood Lin Dong very well. His gaze flashed, as he furrowed his eyebrows and inquired.

“Father, I am fine. It's just that Yan City no longer suits the

current me.”

Lin Dong smiled as he replied. Right now, he had already grown up and should handle some issues on his own. Even if he spoke of his conflict with Lin Langtian, other than making Lin Xiao and the rest enraged, there was little else that it would accomplish.

Lin Xiao stared at Lin Dong. Moments later, his palm heavily patted the latter's shoulder, as he slowly said: “Regardless of your decision, we will not object. However, do not forget this, wherever you are, and no matter what you have been through, as long as you return here, this is always your home. We may not be as powerful, however for you, we will do anything.”

As he looked at the solemn expression on Lin Xiao's face, Lin Dong's heart warmed a little. Promptly, he nodded his head and said with a smile: “Don't worry dad, In two year, I will return in time for the clan gathering.”

“At that time, I will avenge the humiliation that you suffered!”

He did not say the last sentence out loud, rather it sounded out inside Lin Dong's heart. On that day, he would let all the Lin Clan members, who ridiculed his father, know that the son had came to repay his father's debts!

To one side, when Lin Ken and the rest heard of Lin Dong's plan to leave, they were somewhat saddened. However, they did not object, but rather patted the latter's shoulder and said a few touching words. Even though their family was not yet as powerful

as some other families, they had a strong sense of camaraderie that other factions lacked.

“Little brother Lin Dong!”

While Lin Dong chatted with Lin Xiao and the rest, Xia Wanjin led several high ranking members of the Thousand Gold Association and hurriedly walked over, before they bowed solemnly at Lin Dong.

“Brother Lin Dong, we are in your debt. You have helped our Thousand Gold Association tremendously. In the future, if you require assistance from my Thousand Gold Association, we will throw our full weight behind you without question!” Xia Wanjin’s face was especially serious as he declared.

In the past, Lin Dong’s abilities and potential clearly demonstrated that he was an asset worthy of investment. However, right now, based on Lin Dong’s abilities, he had already reached a stage where Wanjin would look up to the former.

Fighting against three opponents alone, killing one and even severely injuring the other two!

This result caused his heart to skip a beat. After all, he clearly remembered that when he first met Lin Dong, the latter was merely at the Heavenly Yuan stage. However, with Lin Dong’s current abilities, even if he wanted to dominate Yan City, it would not be an impossible feat!

“Haha, chairman Xia is too kind. Initially, I received much help and assistance from the Thousand Gold Association and big sister Su. If your association encounters any troubles in future, Lin Dong will be surely do his best to help out.” Lin Dong gently smiled as he replied.

Behind Xia Wanjin, a wide smile was plastered to Xuansu’s beautiful face. The reason why the Thousand Gold Association was able to establish close ties with Lin Dong was mostly thanks to her efforts. Right now, the latter’s ability and attitude did not disappoint her at all.

“Chairman Xia, after this matter, I may leave Yan City for a while. At that time, I hope that you can look after my Lin Family.”

“Oh? You are leaving?” Upon hearing these words, Xia Wanjin was taken aback. Slight reluctance was contained in his eyes, however he did not comment. Solemnly nodding his head, he replied: “ Don’t worry, as long as my Thousand Gold Association is around in Yan City, we will be Lin Family’s closest ally!”

At this stage, no one would doubt Lin Dong’s potential. Even if he left Yan City, he would eventually return one day. At that time, his strength would have probably grown tremendously again. Therefore, for their Thousand Gold Association, this was a massive hidden ally!

“Yue Shan is dead. The Blood Wolf Gang now only exists in name. However, a dying camel is still larger than a horse, if one is negligent, one may leave behind several potential problems.” Lin Dong gently smiled, glancing at the corpse and the floor as he

spoke.

“Haha, little brother Lin Dong, don’t worry. The remnants of Blood Wolf Gang will never appear in Yan City again!” Xia Wanjin was a wise man. He knew that since Lin Dong was going away for a while, he would naturally worry about his Lin Family. Now that he had destroyed the Blood Wolf Gang, the Blood Wolf Gang remnants would definitely harbour a grudge and may attempt to ambush the Lin Family. Hence, he immediately patted his chest as he reassured Lin Dong with a smile.

After hearing these words, Lin Dong gently nodded his head. With a smile, he said: “In that case, I am sorry to trouble chairman Xia. With regards to the two individuals from the Black Python Mountain, I hope that they can be cleanly taken care of...”

When he heard Lin Dong’s casual words, Xia Wanjin’s heart slightly shuddered. He could hear that Lin Dong was clearly unwilling to let Han Sheng and Han Zong escape.

“I will handle this matter.” Xia Wanjin’s eyes slightly narrowed as he softly said.

“Thank you. Now that this matter has been resolved, it’s time for me to return home. If there are any further complications, you can find me at the Lin Family.”

Lin Dong chuckled, not wanting to linger on in this chaotic area. Cupping his hands at Xia Wanjin and Xuansu, he led the Lin Family as they slowly departed. As they walked, the surrounding

crowd swiftly made way for them. Right now, none of them dared to underestimate this Lin Family, which had only recently established themselves in Yan City...

The shocking strength displayed by Lin Dong today had definitely knocked several of them out of their wits.

“Let’s go. The Blood Wolf Gang is finished...”

On a distant building, the middle-aged man with jade-white skin softly chuckled, before he turned to leave. As he took a few steps, he suddenly paused.

“In future, interact more with the Lin Family. This Lin Dong holds tremendous potential and his accomplishments in the future will be astounding. A mere province or even an empire will not tie him down!”

When they heard this middle-aged man’s evaluation, a little awe surfaced in Ziyue and grandmaster Yan’s eyes.

Chapter 193: Eruption of Yin energy

Yue Shan's death and the destruction of the Blood Wolf Gang undoubtedly became the hottest topic in Yan City during this period. No one had expected that the faction which had stood strong for about a dozen years, would completely fall apart in less than a month.

Of course, as news of this spread, word of the main protagonist of this story, Lin Dong, spread like wildfire. Taking on three opponents by himself, plus, his opponents were extremely famous in Yan City and its vicinity.

However, even if this was so, the former still managed to kill one and injure the other two. With this kind of battle record, even when an ordinary person talked about it, he would feel the blood in his body start to boil a little. Such boldness truly caused one to be subdued. Moreover, when they heard that this person was not even twenty years of age, that subdued feeling would transform into a loud gasp of admiration. In the last hundred years of Yan City's history, this kind of talent had never appeared before. The Lin Family was truly lucky to have such a descendent.

In the following half a month, the previously rather famous Blood Wolf Gang gradually faded like smoke under the Thousand Gold Association's merciless counter-attack. Not one of the stronger practitioners in the gang was let off, as they were directly cleaned up by the Thousand Gold association. When some of the ordinary factions saw this, they quickly made themselves scarce like frightened birds and animals. Furthermore, the factions which had some ties with the Blood Wolf Gang previously hastily denied any relation to the latter, afraid that they would be implicated in

this extermination.

As the Blood Wolf Gang was exterminated, the reputation of the Thousand Gold Association in Yan City also soared like the sun. Of course, compared to the unbounded Thousand Gold Association, the Lin Family were much more low-key, and did not show off or spread news of this matter, as they continued their regular daily activities. Of course, after this matter occurred, most things proceeded extremely smoothly for the Lin Family in Yan City, and there were no longer any factions which dared to obstruct them. After all, everyone knew that the biggest reason why the Thousand Gold Association were able to turn defeat into victory against the Blood Wolf Gang was due to Lin Dong of the Lin Family.

With regards to their top-class practitioner, even the Thousand Gold Association was unable to match up to the Lin Family which possessed this kind of heavyweight like Lin Dong. Who else would dare to offend them, wouldn't that be courting death?

Thus, although the Lin Family's overall power was most likely unable to reach the same level as the Thousand Gold Association, after the Blood Wolf Gang had been wiped out, the Lin Family had already become the new and genuine top faction in Yan City!

...

While Yan City was abuzz due to the purge of the Blood Wolf Gang by the Thousand Gold Association, Lin Dong did not take even half a step outside. Over this period of time, he stayed in the Lin Family because after the Lin Family younger generation knew that he would be leaving, many of them hastily tried to make the

best use of their time to ask him for guidance in martial arts. In response, Lin Dong welcomed all of them. After all, if the Lin Family's power could grow even a little, he would worry just a tiny bit less.

“Boom!”

In a courtyard deep in the Lin Family estate, a faintly golden glow flickered in the air. A golden platform floated in mid-air, emitting an extremely oppressive aura.

The golden platform appeared faintly golden in color and was about three meters large, giving off the sensation of being as heavy as a mountain. However, this square golden platform was not as compact as the one Wang Yan had displayed, but instead somewhat more illusionary.

“Bang!”

The golden platform flipped in mid-air, before slamming into the ground, directly turning a boulder to dust with a force so great that even cracks started forming on the ground.

As he observed this destructive power, Lin Dong only slightly shook his head, a little unsatisfied. The might of the Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm he displayed clearly fell short of Wang Yan's

However, there was nothing wrong with this. The minimum

requirement of the Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm was that one needed to reach the Form Creation stage. Or else, one would be unable to create a golden platform, and the attack power would be rather limited, unable to bring out that strong and powerful aura.

Although the current Lin Dong had advanced to the perfect Yuan Dan stage, this was after all still a distance from the Form Creation stage. While using the Heavenly Scales Halberd technique, he was able to borrow the might of the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd to bring out its power. However, this Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm needed the support of one's innate strength.

Lin Dong being able to compact the golden platform to such a stage at the perfect Yuan Dan stage was already a fairly decent achievement. If it was not for the aid of his Mental Energy, he would definitely be unable to manipulate Yuan Power to such an extent.

Simply put, the so-called form creation was one's level of control of Yuan Power. Only when one reached a certain degree of mastery would one be able to compact Yuan Power into various shapes, and possess the ability to greatly strengthen one's attacks. Lin Dong's Mental Energy was not weak, and was able to complement controlling Yuan Power rather well, helping him achieve a somewhat remarkable effect.

Of course, this kind of path where one cultivates both Mental Energy and Yuan Power was not unique to Lin Dong. Most practitioners would achieve a certain level of proficiency in both fields, however, one field would usually be deeper while the other

shallower.

“Brother Lin Dong is great!”

While Lin Dong was deep in thought, a young girl’s lively laughter suddenly sounded out. Upon hearing this voice, Lin Dong softly chuckled, as he lifted his head and gazed at the beautiful young girl in light colored clothings nearby. He promptly walked over, taking a look at Qing Tan’s slightly pale face, as his eyebrows furrowed: “If you’re unwell, don’t run about too much.”

Over this period, the breakout of Yin energy in Qing Tan’s body had become increasingly difficult to deal with. However, Lin Dong was not anxious to immediately use the ‘Extreme Yin Dragon Saliva’. This was because he still needed to wait for the time when the amount of Yin energy reached its peak in a month. This time arrived tonight.

Upon hearing this, Qing Tan happily laughed, making a face at Lin Dong, before tugging at the latter’s arm. Her small and delicate face suddenly darkened a little as she said in a soft voice: “Brother Lin Dong is going to leave soon right?”

“To protect the people I want to protect, I need strength. My current strength is still not enough to protect all of you, thus, I require a greater strength, a strength that I cannot obtain in Yan City.” Lin Dong tenderly stroked Qing Tan’s fine hair as he replied.

“I also want to protect brother Lin Dong.” Qing Tan pouted a little and suddenly declared.

“Haha, that will have to wait until you surpass me first...”

Lin Dong was delighted, soon after, he rubbed his chin and said: “If we are able to subdue the Yin energy in your body tonight, in the future you will slowly be able to control the Yin energy in your body. After which, your future achievements can only be described using the word terrifying. Surpassing me will then be a very simple matter.”

“Really?” Qing Tan’s limpid eyes shined as she joyfully asked.

Lin Dong softly chuckled as he nodded his head. He was silent for a moment before he continued: “However, some matters are a little dangerous, and even fatal...”

“Brother Lin Dong, I am not afraid!” As if she sensed the hesitation in Lin Dong’s tone, Qing Tan abruptly lifted her small face and declared without the slightest hesitation.

Upon seeing this, Lin Dong was once again silent, before he finally nodded his head: “Mm, you should go make proper preparations, tonight’s matter is quite important!”

Qing Tan beamed as she heard this and repeatedly nodded her head. Her footsteps were quick and light as she fluttered away like a butterfly.

As he watched Qing Tan’s leaving figure, Lin Dong’s expression

turned a little solemn. On his shoulder, Little Marten appeared and said: “I should remind you that if the Yin energy in her body completely erupts and she is unable to control it, she would at best be severely injured, and at worst, die on the spot!”

“Of course, if she succeeds, it would be extremely beneficial for her. In the future, as long as she forms a Yin Dan, her strength would definitely soar. At that time, even you will find it very difficult to beat her!”

“Although one has to go through trial after trial with this kind of physique, once the restrictions are undone, one will definitely become a favored child of the heavens!”

Lin Dong lightly nodded his head, he did not care if Qing Tan became strong. He would be most happy as long as she could happily live her life.

“Even if this is so, Qing Tan’s body cannot endure for much longer. Hence, we might as well go all out and fight!”

Lin Dong had already mulled over this matter for half a month. Over this period, the frequency of the Yin energy in Qing Tan’s body erupting became more and more frequent. If this continued, Qing Tan would at most last half a year before her body becomes unable to resist the corrosion of the Yin energy.

Since the final outcome was the same, they would fight!

“Phew...”

Deeply sucking in a breath of cold air, Lin Dong lifted his head and gazed at the gradually darkening sky, as he mumbled: “It will definitely succeed...”

...

Late at night, Qing Tan quietly sat on a stone platform in one of the inner courtyards within the Lin Family estate. Cold Yin energy slowly curled around her, such that even a thin layer of frost covered the stone platform.

The Yin energy in Qing Tan’s body had yet to erupt, yet it already caused these changes in her surroundings. It was difficult to imagine how terrifying it would be when it really erupted.

Below the stone platform, Lin Dong lifted his head and looked at the night sky. As the bright moon gradually dimmed, the Yin energy around them also gradually became richer. He could even sense threads of Yin energy invading Qing Tan’s body without her control.

Qing Tan’s eyes were tightly shut. As the Yin energy gushed in, the terrifying cold Qi hidden deep in her body gave indications of appearing once again, while a chill quietly flowed out.

As this chill flowed out little by little, about half an hour later, Qing Tan’s body suddenly started trembling a little. The Yin

energy in her body was also triggered by the surrounding rich cold Qi.

“Humm humm!”

Yin energy gushed about in mid-air, and continuously poured into Qing Tan’s body while emitting wind noises.

Lin Dong’s eyes were tightly fixed on Qing Tan. When the Yin energy in the latter’s body reached the critical point, his eyes suddenly turned serious, as he lifted his hand and a jade box flew out from his Qiankun bag.

When the jade box opened, a black elixir that emitted an exceedingly potent and pure Yin energy slowly floated out, before finally hovering above Qing Tan’s head.

“Sui!”

Lin Dong’s gaze flashed, as his fist suddenly clenched. The ‘Extreme Yin Dragon Saliva’ straightaway burst open, as an invisible pressure transformed it into deep black drops of viscous liquid that was filled with an inexhaustible cold Yin energy. They dripped onto Qing Tan’s head, and swiftly invaded her body.

“Boom!”

As each drop of deep black cold Yin liquid entered Qing Tan’s body, Yin energy suddenly swept out from Qing Tan’s body like a

hurricane!

In the face of this terrifying Yin energy, even Lin Dong was momentarily shocked!

Chapter 194: Black Yin Dan

The terrifying Yin energy were like huge dragons, as they frantically burst out from Qing Tan's body. In an instant, the courtyard turned biting cold, as if the flesh was being cut off your bone, while a ghastly chill filled the air.

“Ka ka!”

The stone platform where Qing Tan was seated was so chilled by the extreme cold that it emitted cracking noises, as a thick layer of frost swiftly spread outwards.

“To think that the Yin energy hidden in Qing Tan's body is this frightening...”

Lin Dong wore a solemn expression as he gazed at this sight. This was the first time he had seen such a frightening Yin energy. Under the corrosion of such a Yin energy, even he felt the blood in his body faintly start to solidify. Immediately, he urged his Yuan Power to wrap around his entire body. Only then did the ice-cold sensation weaken substantially.

“The Terminus Devil Body was originally the most Yin. Over these years, her body has been constantly absorbing the Yin energy from around her. After settling for more than a dozen years, this Yin energy had already become exceptionally powerful. If she is able to control it, she will possess a matchless cultivation foundation. In the future, her achievements will be limitless.” Little Marten appeared on Lin Dong's shoulder, as it took a look at

the cold Qi which filled the courtyard before explaining.

Lin Dong lightly nodded his head. He did not care how strong Qing Tan would become, as long as she was safe, he would be satisfied.

“Boom!”

While Lin Dong was watching with a serious expression, a pained look suddenly surfaced on Qing Tan’s face. Her body violently trembled, as the Yin energy that erupted from her body showed faint signs of turning black. Moreover, that kind of Yin energy had also become much more potent.

“The Terminus Devil Qi has been drawn out!”

Upon seeing this, Little Marten spoke out in a low voice. This was the most terrifying thing in Qing Tan’s body. If Lin Dong was infected by this Terminus Devil Qi, his Yuan Power would likely be straightaway frozen before completely shattering.

The thick black Terminus Devil Qi was like huge ropes which winded around Qing Tan. The Terminus Devil Qi tangled with each other, looking just like a humongous black storm which soared towards the clouds.

“Ah!”

As the Terminus Devil Qi endlessly gushed out from her body,

black specks surfaced in Qing Tan's eyes, making her look extremely strange, while a pained and hoarse cry sounded out from her mouth.

“Tch!”

The Terminus Devil Qi curled around Qing Tan's lily-white hands, before ferociously smashing into a boulder in front of her. In the face of this power, the originally sturdy boulder had become as weak as tofu.

“Qing Tan cannot endure anymore!”

As he gazed at the Qing Tan's trembling body and her wildly dancing hair, Lin Dong expression started to change.

“The Terminus Devil Qi has erupted too violently, it needs to be suppressed!” Little Marten was deep in thought as it said in a low voice: “Use the Pure Yuan pills, this Terminus Devil Qi is exceedingly tyrannical, you cannot touch it, or else it will be very difficult for you to survive!”

Upon hearing this, Lin Dong did not hesitate at all. His palm lifted as an endless stream of Pure Yuan pills flew out from his Qiankun bag and floated closely together in the sky. From the looks of it, there were at least a thousand of them.

After drawing out a thousand Pure Yuan pills, Lin Dong's palm once again moved, as a faintly golden Yuan Power burst out from

his palm.

As the Yuan Power spread out, the numerous Pure Yuan pills hovering in the air immediately showed signs of melting. In the end, they transformed into an extremely vigorous and pure Yuan Power.

“Go!”

Having transformed this one thousand Pure Yuan pills into pure Yuan Power, Lin Dong’s sleeve waved, as the Yuan Power poured down like a river, before slamming into Qing Tan’s body, and continuously infusing in.

“Ch ch!”

As the powerful Yuan Power poured in, the Terminus Devil Qi around Qing Tan’s body emitted waves of black smoke, and the increasingly violent eruption was forcibly restrained.

Although the current Lin Dong found it extremely troublesome to deal with this Terminus Devil Qi, he had a considerable amount of resources to respond to it. This one thousand Pure Yuan pills was akin to the combined force of several perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners. Hence, suppressing the unripe Terminus Devil Qi in Qing Tan’s body was not impossible.

Surging Yuan Power poured down in torrents, as the pained look on Qing Tan’s face lessened substantially. Just as she sighed in

relief in her heart, Lin Dong's shout suddenly sounded out in her ear: "Qing Tan, concentrate and win over the Terminus Devil Qi. Only when you have compressed the Terminus Devil Qi in your body into a Dan, will you gain complete control over it!"

After hearing Lin Dong's shout, Qing Tan's became a little more clear-headed. She hastily concentrated and did her best to control the Terminus Devil Qi which filled her body, directing all of it towards her Dantian before compressing it.

As Qing Tan focused, the Terminus Devil Qi within her body started to scream, as it swiftly travelled through her body. Every time the Terminus Devil Qi passed through her channels, muscles and bones, it caused Qing Tan's body to tremble violently, as an acute pain like that of a knife cutting her spread out across her entire body.

However, although the Terminus Devil Qi corroded her body, and brought with it this intense pain, Qing Tan could feel that her body and organs were strengthening bit by bit under the pain...

This kind of strengthening would gradually allow Qing Tan to completely adapt to the overbearing Terminus Devil Qi!

As she felt this change, Qing Tan resolutely gritted her teeth and bitterly endured. She understood that if she managed to successfully endure this, her strength would definitely advance by leaps and bounds. This was what she needed, because she did not want to see Lin Dong carrying all the burdens of their family on his shoulders every time...

She wanted to help him and not be a burden to him. Hence, she also needed to become strong, and now...this was the most crucial step in becoming strong!

She must not fail!

A determined look flashed across Qing Tan's limpid and quick-witted eyes. Her lily-white hands tightly clenched, and with a flick of her mind, the Terminus Devil Qi curling around her body started to surge, before being directly absorbed into her tiny mouth!

"Humm humm!"

The black mist dragons which twined around her body started to swirl frantically. Joined at head to tail around Qing Tan's head as they screamed out, forcefully sucking in all the Yin energy in a three hundred meter radius.

"This..:"

When he saw this scene, Lin Dong was taken aback, as his body hastily retreated backwards. Even he dare not stay too close to this berserk Yin energy vortex.

"Although it is very late at night, this disturbance will definitely be sensed by some practitioners..." Lin Dong's gaze slightly flickered, as he lifted his head and gazed at the sky in the distance.

He could sense the appearance of some Yuan Power undulations in that direction. Evidently, this disturbance had drawn the attention of a few practitioners.

“The current Qing Tan cannot be disturbed.” Lin Dong’s eyebrows furrowed, as a sword flickered below his feet. He swiftly floated into the air, grasping onto his Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd. The halberd stamped in the skies as a powerful aura spread outwards.

In Yan City, the expressions of the practitioners, who originally intended to scout this disturbance, changed when they saw the young figure hovering in mid-air, as they conscientiously stopped in their steps. Lin Dong had a rather overwhelming reputation in Yan City now, such that quite a number of people called him the number one practitioner in Yan City. With him overseeing this affair, no one dared to rashly take a peek.

“The Lin Family is in that direction, this disturbance, it looks like someone is about to have a break through to the perfect Yuan Dan stage. This Lin Family has truly concealed many talents...”

“True, it is likely that the Lin Family will become the true leader of Yan City in the future.”

“...”

In the night, some amazed whispers quietly spread about.

At the center of Yan City, a man with a jade-like complexion lifted his head and gazed in the Lin Family's direction. His expression was a little solemn, as he could sense the terrifying Yin energy in that area.

“This Lin Family...is truly extraordinary.”

Leaving numerous practitioners in awe, Lin Dong looked down at Qing Tan. At this moment, black waves were rippling out from her body. These black ripples were extremely formidable and tyrannical, leaving behind a layer of black frost wherever they passed.

The entire courtyard was covered in black frost. Fortunately, Lin Dong knew the disturbance this time would not be small. Hence, he intentionally found a more remote area, or else, if this cold Qi were to escape, it would cause considerable damage.

“The Terminus Devil Qi in her body is becoming more and more frightening! This lass, her willpower does not lose out to yours in the slightest. To think that she is actually able to endure the pain from the Terminus Devil Qi corrosion!” Little Marten suddenly said as it watched Qing Tan.

“Bang!”

Just as Little Marten's voice sounded out, Qing Tan's eyes abruptly opened. Two strange black lights burst out from her eyes, and wherever the lights shined, countless black icicles would erupt from the ground with 'ka ka' sounds!

When she opened her eyes, the aura from Qing Tan's body started to soar frantically. Heavenly Yuan early stage, middle stage, late stage...

In a short few minutes, Qing Tan had already jumped to the Heavenly Yuan late stage. She was now only a single step from the Yuan Dan stage!

When her aura reached the Heavenly Yuan late stage, Qing Tan's small mouth slightly opened, as the black storm-like Terminus Devil Qi around her body immediately flew into that small cherry mouth.

The black Terminus Devil storm that was a dozen meters large completely entered Qing Tan's body in a few minutes!

“Buzz buzz!”

As the last bit of Terminus Devil Qi was sucked into Qing Tan's body, her long hair suddenly spread out. Qing Tan abruptly lifted her head, as a black light slowly rose out from her mouth!

As the black light rose, it was as if the Yin energy all around was being drawn in, and endlessly gathered towards the black light.

As more and more Yin energy was absorbed into the black light, the black light gradually grew brighter. In the end, it started to spin and slowly transformed into a deep black Dan that was about

the size of a thumb!

This Yuan Dan was not large, and was covered in a deep black color. This kind of black looked as if it was able to gobble down one's gaze, an extremely strange sight.

Just as this deep black Yuan Dan formed, Qing Tan's aura once again crazily soared under Lin Dong and quite a few practitioner's astonished senses!

To think that the Terminus Devil Body would be so terrifying after its awakening...

Chapter 195: Activating the Stone Talisman

“Such a powerful Yuan Power undulation!”

Lin Dong wore a serious expression as he gazed at the black Yuan Dan which was emitting Yuan Power undulations. This black Yuan Dan was different from the Yuan Dans he had seen before, because within this black Yuan Dan, he was not able to sense even the slightest bit of Yin Yang power. In place of it was an extremely pure Yin power.

This kind of Yin power was extremely formidable and tyrannical. One could only imagine how domineering it would be in a battle.

“People with these types of pure Yin or pure Yang bodies are exceedingly well equipped for cultivation. In fact, they should be considered as the real pride of the Heavens. Right now, her body has not fully matured. After she has fully matured, her accomplishments will be substantial.” A look of awe flashed across Little Marten’s eyes. Even though this was not the first time he had encountered such a body type, jealousy involuntarily surfaced in his heart. People with these type of pure body structures are able to accomplish twice the amount in the same time compared to normal practitioners.

“Qingtian should have succeeded?” Lin Dong asked.

“Yes, that girl is extremely tenacious. Just now, when the Terminus Devil Qi cleansed her body, she managed to forcefully endure that excruciating pain. Thankfully, you used a large

amount of Yuan Power to forcefully control that Terminus Devil Qi explosion. Else, regardless of how tenacious she is, she would not be able to endure that blow.” Little Marten nodded his head as he said.

When he heard these words, Lin Dong gently heaved a sigh of relief. With regards to Qingtan, the assistance he could provide her was rather limited. Now that he saw that the latter was safe, his heart was calm.

While Lin Dong heaved a sigh of relief, below him, a thumb-sized black Yin Dan was still slowly swirling. As more and more Yin energy was absorbed by it, the Yuan Power vibration undulated by that Yin Dan became increasingly formidable.

As that black Yin Dan swirled, its body was slowly enlarging. Moments later, when it was approximately the size of a small walnut, it finally stopped.

On the surface of the Yin Dan now, it's color had become increasingly dark and it seemed like any light reflected on it has been swallowed. From a distance, it seemed just like a black hole. Even though it was small, it gave off a heart-palpitating aura.

When that Yin Dan stopped growing, Qingtan opened her tiny mouth, before the former turned into a black flash and entered inside her body...

“Boom!”

When that Yin Dan entered Qingtan's body, an exceedingly powerful Yuan Power shockwave exploded forth. That exceedingly powerful shockwave directly shattered all the black ice in the yard, before they turned into mist and floated off.

“Have you succeeded...”

As she first experienced this immense power flowing through her body, a look of delight gushed forth in Qingtan's eyes.

“In the future, the Terminus Devil Qi inside your body will not explode again...” Lin Dong's body gradually approached Qingtan. As he stared at the latter's smile, he gently smiled as well. Right now, Qingtan's strength would not lose out to a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner. Hence, even if he left Yan City, their Lin Family would still be quite powerful. In fact, in the future, Qingtan would likely replace him to become the strongest member of Lin Family.

“Lin Dong brother, right now I am quite strong too. Can I come with you?” Qingtan suddenly lifted her jade like hands, as a trace of black Yuan Power stealthily flowed between her long and beautiful fingertips. Then she stared somewhat eagerly at Lin Dong as she asked.

Lin Dong was slightly stunned, before he shook his head without hesitation. His journey this time was not for leisure. Furthermore, the outside world was several hundred times more dangerous than Yan City. In certain places, he was not even confident that he could protect himself. Hence, how could he risk bringing Qingtan along?

When she saw Lin Dong's expression, Qingtan knew that there was no room for discussion. Immediately, she grunted in disappointment.

When he saw this situation, Lin Dong involuntarily smiled. Then, he lovingly stroked Qingtan's tiny head as he said: "Don't worry. When the Family Clan competition begins, I will be back..."

"At that time, it will be time for that fellow to repay this debts..."

Lin Dong lifted his head as he stared at that full moon. In his mind, the image of Lin Langtian staring at him just like an ant resurfaced...

Lin Langtian, in two years time, we shall meet again!

.....

After resolving Qingtan's problems, Lin Dong was evidently able to relax. In the following two day's time, he felt more light-hearted. Elsewhere, he gave a portion of his pure Yuan Pills to Lin Zhentian and the rest. For the Lin Family, this amount of money was still considered rather substantial. With these resources in hand, their Lin Family's progress would definitely be more smooth sailing.

...

Inside the serene room, Lin Dong was seated on his bed. A stream

of Mental Energy shot out from his eyes, before a Mental Energy map surfaced in front of him.

This Mental Energy map was largely the map of Great Yan Dynasty. On the bottom left corner of the map, was a flashing red dot. That was the location of an “Ancient Symbol” and that was where Lin Dong was headed to.

On that Mental Energy map, it showed the locations of two “Ancient Symbols”. However, Lin Dong only knew the area around one of them. For the other, its surroundings seemed exceedingly foreign and it was evidently not situated in Great Yan Dynasty. Hence, Lin Dong could only target the other one.

On Lin Dong’s shoulder, Little Marten suddenly appeared as he stared at that Mental Energy map.

“During this period of time, I have been studying the map. The location of that “Ancient Symbol” should be in the Great Wilderness province situated at the west side of Great Yan Dynasty.” Lin Dong stared at that red dot as he muttered.

Great Wilderness Province was a large county situated at the western edge of Great Yan Dynasty. It’s land area was several times larger than Tiandu Province. However, since it was situated near the border, it was an extremely chaotic place dominated by several major factions. In fact, even the reputation of the Four Great Clans in Great Yan Dynasty will be heavily discounted in such a place.

That place was several times more dangerous than Yan City. A

perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner may be able to cause waves in Yan City. However, at that place, he would definitely fail to do so.

Nonetheless, where danger exist, opportunity lurks around too. It is reputed that in that large area, there were countless treasure hidden within. Furthermore, there were several wise men residing in its deep mountains and all sorts of secret Martial Arts and Spiritual Arts could be found there as well. Hence, if one is able and fortunate, he could possibly transform from a carp into a dragon and become a famed practitioner in Great Yan Dynasty. Of course, if one is negligent, he could just as easily lose his life.

“The Mental Energy map only provides the general location and it does not pinpoint the exact location of the Ancient Symbol. It seems like we can only investigate when we arrive there.” Lin Dong furrowed his eyebrows. He was slightly troubled about venturing into the most chaotic and dangerous place in Great Yan Dynasty. Nonetheless, he had no other alternative. Out of the two known locations of these “Ancient Symbols”, this was the only one he could go for.

“Yes.”

Little Marten nodded his head, before he said: “So, when are you ready to leave?”

“We have lingered in Yan City for quite a while. There is no need to stay on any further, let’s depart tomorrow.” Lin Dong was silent for a moment, before he spoke without hesitation.

“That place is definitely different from this small Yan City. If you wish to successfully obtain the “Ancient Symbol”, you would need to upgrade your strength...”

Lin Dong gently nodded his head. He naturally understood this principle. Even though he was now a big shot in Yan City, when he arrived at Great Wilderness Province, he would have to keep a low profile. With regards to upgrading his strength, he was already trying his utmost best.

“Based on your current strength, you should be able to activate some parts of the Stone Talisman...”

“Activate the stone talisman?” Lin Dong was slightly stunned before a fervent feverish glint exploded forth in his eyes as he stared right at Little Marten. He knew that this Mysterious Stone Talisman had an extraordinary background and it may have possessed more hidden abilities. However, regardless of how hard he tried, he could not uncover any other additional abilities.

“On account of the fact that you helped me to obtain several Demonic Souls from the old tomb, Little Marten will assist you.” As he stared at Lin Dong’s expectant eyes, Little Marten pridefully chuckled. With a flash, his body turned into a light beam and flew inside the Stone Talisman embedded inside Lin Dong’s palm. Then, in a flick of his mind, Lin Dong’s Mental Energy swiftly followed behind.

The dark Spiritual Domain was now slightly brighter than before. The glowing shadows were still tirelessly displaying every Martial Arts that Lin Dong had learnt. In fact, even the Ancient

Heavenly Scales Halberd techniques and Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm were being displayed by these glowing shadows. Furthermore, they were performing these martial arts perfectly. In fact, a major reason why Lin Dong could quickly master these two new forms of martial arts was thanks to these glowing shadows.

“This Stone Talisman is exceedingly mysterious and it has been in the possession of several elite practitioners. When these practitioners pass away, they would seal some of their famed skills inside. However, right now, since you are still too weak, you are unable to obtain those skills...” Little Marten hovered inside the Spiritual Domain, as he stared at a dark area and casually said.

“Right now, based on your current strength, you are barely adequate. In terms of martial arts, only your Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd techniques and Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm amounts to something. However, your secret art skill is still lacking and that is your current weakness. If this goes on, when you fight with others, based on your current secret arts skill, it would be difficult for you to last...”

Lin Dong nodded his head. The “Tri Sun Art” that he possessed was only a second-tier secret arts. Meanwhile, the martial arts like Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd techniques and Subduing Golden Platform Magic Palm were considered top-tier. Even though there were extremely formidable, they took a heavy toll on his body. Though he had pure Yuan Dan pills to support him, it was not a complete solution.”

“Since many elite practitioners have left something behind, then...” Lin Dong eyes turned to look at Little Marten.

“Heh, you are quite fortunate. Typically, only after you advance to Creation stage can you begin to break through some of these weaker seals. However, after a long period of time, some of these seals have weakened. Therefore, you can barely manage to break them now.” Little Marten released a weird smile, before he suddenly waved his claws and shouted: “Pour all of your Mental Energy into my body!”

When he heard these words, Lin Dong did not hesitate. With a flick of his mind, countless Mental Energy rushed into Little Marten’s body. As a formidable Mental Energy gushed forth, Little Marten’s body became slightly more lifelike. Promptly, streaks of purple light beams emerged from his claws. When these light streams penetrated into the dark areas of the Spiritual Domain, Lin Dong could faintly feel that at that area, an item that was hidden extremely well and slowly being taken apart.

A shockwave emerged from that dark area. Moments later, Little Marten’s claw suddenly jutted forth as a suction force gushed forth. Then, a golden shining column emerged from the darkness as it directly ripped across the dark regions. With an exceedingly forceful aura, it flew forth and hovered in front of Lin Dong.

Lin Dong stared at that golden light before he saw that a shining golden ball was hidden within as it slowly rotated. Above that shining ball, were four ancient symbols faintly appearing.

“Great Sun Thunder Body!”

Chapter 196: Great Sun Thunder Body

“Great Sun Thunder Body!”

These Ancient characters were faintly appearing on top of that glowing ball. An exceedingly forceful aura gushed forth, causing Lin Dong to stop breathing momentarily.

“This is...” Lin Dong stared right at Little Marten, with a feverish expression in his eyes.

“This should be considered as a 1st-tier secret art. Furthermore, it possess the rare ability to enhance one’s body as well. The owner of this secret art was once famed throughout the world and he used this secret art to kill several elite practitioners. He was truly a legendary figure!” Little Marten smiled as he said.

“1st-tier secret art!”

When he heard these words, the fever in Lin Dong’s eyes intensified. Even though a 2nd-tier and 1st-tier secret art was only one stage apart, the difference between the two was akin to the difference between Heaven and Earth. For a 2nd-tier secret art, Lin Dong was able to acquire it for several thousands Yang Yuan pills. However, for a 1st-tier secret art, even if he used several thousands pure Yuan pills, he would fail to acquire one.

Even for a massive faction like the Lin Clan, only the core members would be given the opportunity to acquire these type of secret art. Furthermore, once they acquired one, they would never

surrender it easily. After all, once one acquires a top-tier secret art, then in the journey of cultivation, one would be able to take several “shortcuts”. Hence, this was extremely important for any practitioner.

“This Great Sun Thunder Body is split into three chapters. The first chapter is not only able to unlock forty-three inner channels, but it is also able to create a Yuan Power swirl below your skin. When you activate it, you will be able to absorb Yuan Power from Heaven and Earth into your body as a rate several times faster than before.”

“The Yuan Power crystallized by Great Sun Thunder Body is also called Great Sun Thunder Yuan. It is able to enhance your body and strengthen your bones and muscles. If you are able to successfully master the first chapter, you can then unlock the first hidden skill of known as Bronze Thunder Body!

“Bronze Thunder Body?” Lin Dong was slightly taken aback.

“This so-called Bronze Thunder Body is able to enhance your body substantially. If you are able to succeed, at that time, even a low-grade Soul Treasure is unable to penetrate your defences. In fact, you would be impenetrable to any blade and no fire or water can hurt you.” Little Marten casually smiled as he said.

“Impenetrable to any blade, no fire or water can hurt you!” Lin Dong involuntarily sucked in a breath of cold air. This was the first time he had seen such an exceedingly powerful secret art. This so-called Great Sun Thunder Body was indeed extraordinary.

“There is no need to be this shocked. The Great Sun Thunder Body is split into three chapters. The first is Bronze Thunder Body, the next is Jade Thunder Body and the final is Great Sun Thunder Body. In the past, when the owner of that secret art mastered Great Sun Thunder Body, with a punch, he is able to crush a high-grade soul treasure. In fact, even a Nirvana stage practitioner does not dare to receive his attack!”

When he heard Little Marten’s words, Lin Dong was sweating involuntarily. He had personally experienced the might of a high-grade soul treasure and it was even able to directly penetrate the Soul Puppet’s solid body. However, this type of treasure was unable to survive a punch from Great Thunder Body. Hence, this kind of power was truly astonishing.

Lin Dong deeply exhaled as if he wanted to exhale all the shock in his heart. Then, he stretched out his palm as he tried to investigate the glowing golden ball in front of him.

“Buzz buzz!”

Just as Lin Dong’s palm reached in, that glowing light began to vibrate before it turned into a golden liquid and wrapped itself around Lin Dong’s palm. Then, it flowed inside his body through his pores.

When that golden liquid flowed into his body, a golden light exploded inside Lin Dong’s mind as the secret skill manual surfaced.

Lin Dong stood his ground with his eyes closed, as a soft golden light surfaced in his mind. Moment later, he slowly opened his eyes. Right now, a light golden glint was flashing across his eyes.

“This is indeed a 1st-tier secret art. If you want to master “Bronze Thunder Body”, you actually require Tempered Thunder Pieces, this...” A golden spark flowed in Lin Dong’s eye as he furrowed his eyebrows. A thunderbolt was exceedingly powerful and most ordinary people would seek to avoid it. Hence, who dared to harvest Tempered Thunder Pieces? Though this secret art seemed extremely powerful, it was extremely dangerous to cultivate in it.

“In this world, how can you expect a reward without risks? In fact, there are even risks involved when cultivating your lousy secret art. Furthermore, this is the Great Sun Thunder Body? Don’t be too greedy.” Little Marten pursed his lips as he spoke.

Lin Dong waved his hands. He naturally understood his principle as well. After he grumbled to himself, his eyes turned towards the location of the glowing shadows. At that area, a new glowing shadow had been born. Inside it body, there was a faint golden glow. That was the cultivation trajectory for Great Sun Thunder Body.

Inside that glowing shadow, that golden line began to move as it traced out all of the hidden and deep inner channels inside the human body...

Thanks to that golden line, all the new inner channels were

reflected inside Lin Dong's eyes. One line, two lines... Forty three lines...

When that forty third line was sketched out, Lin Dong's eyes suddenly opened up. He tightly stared at that golden line, which had now slowed down. He was eager to find out, whether this Mysterious Stone Talisman could refine and improve such an exceedingly powerful 1st-tier secret art..

Under Lin Dong's tight glance, that golden line, which had slowed down, once again slowly pushed forth. Then, it finally slipped into a foreign trajectory that had not appeared on the Great Sun Thunder Body.

The forty fourth line!

When he saw that sight, a look of awe surfaced on Lin Dong's eyes. Evidently, he did not expect that Mysterious Stone Talisman was able to refine such a powerful secret art.

From some angle, a 1st-tier secret art could be considered as nearly perfect. Hence, when the Stone Talisman traced out the forty fourth inner channel, it completely stopped. However, Lin Dong was fairly pleased with this progress. After all, he understood that this additional inner channel was able to boost his cultivation progress by two fold!

As he secretly praised the Stone Talisman's ability inside his heart, Lin Dong promptly remembered the trajectory of every inner channel, before he left that Spiritual Domain.

Inside his room, Lin Dong has barely exited from the Spiritual Domain before he straightaway began his cultivation. With a flick of his mind, the dark golden Yuan Dan inside his Dan Tian began to swirl suddenly. Meanwhile, streams of Yuan power began to howl forth.

“Boom!”

A thick Yuan Power began to surge inside his inner channels. With a flick of his mind, streams of Yuan Power barged into a foreign inner channel just like an enraged python, before they broke through all of the obstacles.

Right now, based on Lin Dong's current strength, it was not difficult for him to breakthrough the obstacles obstructing his inner channels. In mere minutes, he had managed to forcefully unlock the first inner channel of Great Sun Thunder Body. Then, his Yuan power once again dashed forth as they tirelessly rushed towards his second inner channel.

“Swoosh Swoosh!”

Nearly all of the Yuan Power inside Lin Dong's body was now being utilized. Faintly, there was a crisp water flowing sound echoing out, as his inner channels were swiftly unlocked thanks to his powerful Yuan Power wave.

However, this smooth progress did not last for a long time. Even though a 1st-tier secret arts is exceedingly powerful, it was several

times more difficult to master. Though Lin Dong was able to swiftly unlock every inner channel of “Tri Sun Arts” in a short period of time, he was evidently unable to do the same for “Great Sun Thunder Body”. Hence, after Lin Dong managed to unlock the ninth inner channel, the Yuan Power in his body began to dry up.

When he detected his situation, Lin Dong did not hesitate. Rather, he directly took out several dozens of pure Yuan Pills from his Qiankun bag, before he absorbed it into his body in order to replenish his depleted Yuan Power.

With this nourishment, Lin Dong once again collected himself and began diligently unlocking all of his blocked inner channels, just like he was opening up a stairway to heaven.

When Lin Dong diligently unlocked all of these foreign inner channels, some changes began to occur to his Yuan Power. As he unlocked more inner channels, his originally dark golden Yuan Power began to glow brightly as an exceedingly formidable aura began to stealthily appear.

Great Sun Thunder Yuan!

Evidently, this enhanced Yuan Power was the Great Sun Thunder Yuan that Little Marten mentioned!

This was the power of a 1st-tier secret art as it could even strengthen one’s Yuan Power. This magical effect was something that an ordinary secret art could not accomplish. Furthermore, Lin Dong also realized that once he managed to thoroughly convert all

the Yuan Power in his body into Great Sun Thunder Yuan, his battle ability would surge to a whole new level!

In fact, if he successfully mastered “Bronze Thunder Body”, he could probably match up against a Creation stage practitioner!

“Boom Boom!”

That glowing golden Yuan Power was like a tidal wave flowing through Lin Dong’s body. Faintly, just like a thunder roar, whenever these Yuan Power passed through his bones, muscles and flesh, Lin Dong could sense a trace of a electrical-like power stealthily seeping through. Thanks to this peculiar energy, Lin Dong’s body was now gradually being strengthened.

The advantages of a 1st-tier secret art was now beginning to show itself!

As he sensed the immense changes inside his body, a delight surged in Lin Dong’s heart. Evidently, he had never expected such profound changes right after he started cultivating a 1st-tier secret art. Then, without hesitation, his finger jutted forth as hundreds of pure Yuan Pills flew from his Qiankun bag, before they were turned into a stream of pure Yuan Power and was absorbed by his body. Then, they transformed into a tidal wave as they surged towards the remaining blocked inner channels!

“Bang bang bang!”

As they encountered Lin Dong's aggressive attack, all of the hidden inner channels, were just like popcorns, as they were all swiftly unlocked with a pop sound!

As his inner channels were being unlocked, the Yuan Power inside Lin Dong's body began to swiftly metamorphosize!

Chapter 197: A Challenge Before He Departed

Over the course of the night, Lin Dong did not rest at all. After depleting thousands of pure Yuan Pills, he managed to log a significant progress. Out of the forty four inner channels, he managed to directly unlock fifteen of them. His progress can be considered as quite substantial. After all, this Great Sun Thunder Body was a true 1st-tier secret skills and it was much harder to master compared to other secret skills.

After he unlocked fifteen inner channels, approximately one-third of Lin Dong's Yuan Power had been transformed in "Great Sun Thunder Yuan". Furthermore, thanks to his high-grade Yuan Dan, his enhanced "Great Sun Thunder Yuan" was even more powerful. Based on Lin Dong's calculations, just using this one-third proportion of his "Great Sun Thunder Yuan", he was able to match up against himself.

A 1st-tier secret skill indeed lives up to its reputation.

...

Sunlight poured forth his window and shone on the ground before it was split into warm light columns. Lin Dong, who was now lying on his bed, started to gradually open his eyes. Below the pores of his skin, were a faint shimmering golden glow, before they gradually disappeared.

"Fifteen channels."

When he noted his progress from one night, Lin Dong gently nodded his head. However, he was not extremely satisfied. It was increasingly difficult to unlock the remaining inner channels. Based on Lin Dong's prediction, the Yuan Power needed to unlock one additional inner channel was several times that of before. Therefore, Lin Dong needed to use thousands of pure Yuan Pills in order to unlock the sixteenth channel.

Henceforth, in order to unlock the remaining twenty nine inner channels, Lin Dong would need at least thirty thousand pure Yuan Pills... However, evidently, even after he received a fortune from that rich bastard Wang Yan, Lin Dong was still unable to afford it.

At this moment, Lin Dong finally understood just how crucial these pure Yuan Pills were for a practitioner. If he had enough pure Yuan Pills, then in perhaps a few month's time, he would be able to unlock all forty four inner channels. Of course, if he only utilized the Yuan Power from between Heaven and Earth... Then his rate would slow down by at least ten fold and perhaps even more.

At the same time, Lin Dong finally understood just how broke he was currently. In the journey of cultivation, talent was naturally important. However, if one lacked sufficient resources, then he would just be like a talented housewife who cannot feed her family without rice...

Lin Dong sat on his bed as he tallied the pure Yuan Pills left in his Qiankun bag. As he gave ten thousand of them to the Lin Family, he only had approximately twenty thousand left. This was

evidently insufficient for him to unlock all of his inner channels. Furthermore, for this trip, in order to play safe, he was forced to keep many pure Yuan Pills in reserve. Else, should he encounter any massive problems, he would lack the pure Yuan Pills needed to activate the Soul Puppet.

“So broke...”

After he tallied, Lin Dong involuntarily sighed. Then, leaping off his bed, his eyes glanced at his surroundings before he muttered to himself: “It’s time to go...”

He had already lingered in Yan City for a while. Now that Qingtian’s Terminus Devil Body had been taken care off, it was time for Lin Dong to depart. After all, the remaining time that he had was quite limited. Two year’s time may not seem short. However, at the end of that time period was a back shadow that caused one to suffocate.

Furthermore, in two year’s time, Lin Dong must catch up with that man that now far exceeded him!

Lin Dong was not an indecisive man. Since he had made up his mind to leave today, he did not hesitate further. Moments later, he packed his bags before he relayed the message to Lin Zhentian, Lin Xiao and the rest.

When his message got out, the Lin Family turned chaotic immediately. In the front yard, almost everyone had gathered there. As things stand, Lin Dong’s status in the Lin Family has

already exceeded that of Lin Zhentian. Furthermore, the reason why the Lin Family was able to establish themselves in Yan City was largely due to Lin Dong's efforts.

With regards to this elite individual, every member of Lin Family deeply respected him. After all, between Heaven and Earth, power is the most important thing. With power, one could change anything.

As he stared at that numerous black heads gathered at the front yard, Lin Dong felt slightly helpless. Especially when he saw Qingtan's big tearful eyes, he felt a slight headache.

"Dong-er, when you go outside, be careful!" Lin Zhentian was evidently reluctant, as he constantly instructed him. Even though he knew that this grandson was an exceptional individual that would not be tied up by this small Yan City, when the time came to bid goodbye, the old man's heart was still highly reluctant.

"Grandpa, don't worry..."

Lin Dong smiled. He was not a naive brat anymore. In these two years, he had defeated the Lei Xie Families, Blood Cloth Sect, Blood Wolf Gang and even fought against the elite younger generation members of Great Yan Dynasty. Hence, even though the outside world was dangerous, he was not afraid of it.

"Growl!"

Standing beside Lin Dong, Little Flame released a deep growl. Contained within his growl was a unique pressure. After it had swallowed numerous Demonic Crystals in the old tomb, Little Flame's strength has surged in this past month. In fact, right now, even if it fought against a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner, it had a good chance to emerge victorious. Hence, for this journey, Lin Dong planned to bring it along.

He heard from Little Marten that Little Flame used to be an ordinary Fire Python Tiger. However, due to mutations in its bloodline, it would become fairly powerful in the future. Therefore, Lin Dong was naturally going to take good care of this talented assistant.

“A good man's ambition is far and wide. A dragon should be soaring in the skies. Dong-er, do what you want to do. Father is curious to find out, just how powerful my son would be!” Lin Xiao heavily patted Lin Dong's shoulder, before he said with a smile.

As he stared at Lin Xiao's smiling face, Lin Dong's heart was touched. Gently nodding his head, with a flash of his figure, he leapt on the tiger's back and said: “Grandpa, Father, Uncle, please take care!”

Lin Dong was a decisive man. As he cupped his hands, he did not hesitate anymore. Patting Little Flame, the latter released a deep growl, before it transformed into a fiery-red figure and dashed out of the yard under the gaze of the Lin Family...

“I will be back for the Family Clan Competition two year's time. Grandpa, at that time, the Lin Clan will beg you to rejoin them!”

As that fiery-red figure departed, a solid shout echoed forth from a distance and swirled around this front-yard. This caused the blood of several younger generation members to boil. This charisma.... He is indeed Lin Dong brother!

“Haha.”

Lin Zhentian's aged eyes were slightly moist as he stared at Lin Dong's departing back. Then, he suddenly laughed heartily. He understood just how incredulous it would be for a massive faction like Lin Clan to beg him to rejoin them. However.. with regards to Lin Dong, he never doubted the former.

For the Family Clan Competition two year's time, he firmly believed that this grandson, would once again appear in front of them in an astounding fashion!

At that time, any sparkling genius would lose their luster in front of him!

“Our Lin Family may be a side family, but our grandson can still be a dragon!”

The sun rays poured down from the sky and shone on Lin Zhentian's aged face. Plastered on his face was a look of pride and content. Having such a grandson was enough for him to die in content!

...

A fiery-red shadow dashed across the Yan City. The deep beastly growl caused several practitioner's face to change. However, none of them dared to voice their disagreement. After all, all of them knew who this fiery-red beast belonged to.

That fiery-red shadow dashed across the city. Just as it was about to reach the city's gates, suddenly Lin Dong, who was seated on the tiger, lifted his head up to look at a spot above the city's walls. At that spot, was a figure stepping on top of the city walls. Meanwhile, his eyes were staring right at him.

“A Creation stage practitioner!”

As he stared at that middle-aged man with jade-like skin, Lin Dong's pupils dilated. If he had guessed correctly, that man must be the mysterious Yan City Lord and the undisputed top practitioner in Yan City!

“Haha, Lin Dong young brother is about to depart. I cannot resist as I itch for a good fight!”

That middle man's figure stared at Lin Dong, who was standing afar. A soft laughter was enwrapped with a thick Yuan Power as it spread out across the entire Yan City!

“Is that... city lord Shi?”

“Oh my god, even city lord Shi has appeared. This Lin Dong is truly amazing!”

“Yeah, it is reputed that city lord Shi has advanced to Creation Stage. He is indeed the undisputed champion in Yan City. Now that Lin Dong is departing, even he has appeared personally...”

“The two of them are the true elites of Yan City. If they crossed blows, it would decide who is the top practitioner in Yan City!”

As that middle-aged man’s laughter spread forth, the entire Yan City almost instantly turned chaotic. Even though there were three main factions in Yan City, everyone knew that the city lord Shi was the real master. Hence, this city lord Shi that barely surfaced was the most reputed individual in the city!

Hence, when that person spoke, a commotion erupted in the entire Yan City. Black figures, just like fleas, jumped on the roof tops and stared at that area.

Lin Dong was taken aback by city lord Shi’s words. He had a good relationship with Zi Yue and hence, he felt warm towards this city lord. Immediately, his eyes looked at the middle-aged man. From the latter’s eyes, he could detect no hostility. Instead, there was a fervent glint in his eyes. This was a look that only surfaced when one meets a rare opponent that could equal oneself...

It seems like this city lord Shi has not had a hearty fight for a long while.

As he stared at that figure, Lin Dong suddenly smiled as pride gushed forth in his heart. Since he was planning to depart today, he wanted to have a hearty fight as well!

Under the gazes of the crowds, Lin Dong's footsteps gently tapped on the tiger's back, before his figure flew off into the sky. The blade shadow below his feet flashed forth. With a grip of his palm, that vicious-looking Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd appeared. As he stomped against the sky, a heart-palpitating formidable aura began to emerge forth!

“Since it is the orders of the city lord, how could Lin Dong defy!”

As he stared at that figure hovering in the sky with a giant halberd, the crowd's blood began to boil...

Chapter 198: Fighting the City Lord

Lin Dong's feet stepped on the blade shadow, while he carried the Ancient Halberd in his hands. He stared at that middle-aged man with a similar fervent glint in his eyes. Right now, since his previous battle with Wang Yan, his strength had grown again. Hence, he was curious to find out based on his strength alone, whether he could match up against a Creation stage practitioner!

“Haha, such a formidable aura. Truly an outstanding young man.”

As he stared at Lin Dong magnificent aura, that city lord Shi gently smiled as a hint of admiration fleeted across his eyes. Promptly, gripping his palm, an approximately three meter long jade-like longsword appeared in his hands.

This longsword was fairly long, as it was about three meters long. In fact, it seemed just like a small spear. The blade was jade-like in color and there were a jade-like glow faintly shimmering on it. Based on the formidable aura given off by that sword, it seemed like it was a Soul Treasure.

“Broken Jade Sword. Haha, it seems like city lord Shi does not dare to underestimate Lin Dong...”

Amidst the murmuring of the crowds, near the city walls, there were several figures looking at the sky. They were Xia Wanjin, grandmaster Yan and the rest.

“Ah, it’s been years since I saw the city lord Shi use his Broken Jade Sword...” Xia Wanjin softly sighed as he said.

“Why did Father suddenly make this move? Didn’t he instruct us to maintain cordial relationships with the Lin Family?” Standing beside them, Zi Yue gently furrowed her eyebrows as she said.

“Haha, city lord Shi is not a hot-headed man. If Lin Dong could match up against him, regardless of the outcome, the Lin Family will surely establish themselves in Yan City. In fact, other major factions in neighbouring cities will be afraid of plotting against them.” Grandmaster Yan gently smiled.

Even though Lin Dong killed Yue Shan and destroyed Blood Wolf Gang, that Yue Shan is merely at perfect Yuan Dan stage. However, city lord Shi is a real Creation stage practitioner. There is an extremely huge gulf between the two of them. In the eyes of many people, Creation stage is an extremely powerful stage. Hence, if Lin Dong could fight against him in front of this crowd, regardless of the outcome, it would still be beneficial for his Lin Family.

Of course, if they knew that Lin Dong had already fought against Wang Yan, who was at the pinnacle of Form Creation stage, and even managed to snatch his Qiankun bag, then today’s matter would be totally redundant...

City lord Shi gripped onto his jade sword, as an exceedingly formidable aura began to spread from his body. His aura was several times stronger than Yue Shan!

Such an powerful aura naturally caused an uproar inside the city. Creation stage, even in this entire Yan City, there was only one such practitioner!

As his Yuan Power undulated, city lord Shi stared at Lin Dong. In the next instance, just like a sudden gust of wind, the crowd felt a vibration between Heaven and Earth. Then, they saw an exceedingly powerful blade shadow flash across the horizons and ripped through the air, before it was viciously directed towards Lin Dong, who was standing on his own blade shadow!

“Ding!”

Lin Dong was calm. As he jutted his arm, a glowing golden Yuan Power spread out on his Halberd, before it turned into a golden flash and lightning-quick countered against that powerful blade shadow. As golden Yuan Power gushed forth, it directly managed to counter against that blade shadow.

“City lord Shi, if you want to settle this match using such an attack, I am afraid that it will be an uphill battle.” After he directly countered that blade shadow with one Halberd technique, Lin Dong shrugged his shoulders. Then, tilting his Ancient Halberd, he laughed as he said.

“Yue Shan was defeated by you. Therefore, that is only logical.” City lord Shi gently smiled. From the fact that Lin Dong managed to casually counter his attack, evidently the latter’s strength far exceeds that of an ordinary perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner. Hence, it was only natural for Yue Shan to die by his hands.

Just as he finished speaking, a formidable look slowly appeared in his eyes. Meanwhile, at this moment, his aura became increasingly terrifying.

“Swoosh!”

As his terrifying aura gushed forth, city lord Shi's feet suddenly jutted out, before he turned into a rainbow flash and dashed forth. On his left hand, an exceedingly bright glow exploded forth. Below it, was an exceptionally powerful Yuan Power synthesizing together.

“Great Jade Palm!”

A deep shout echoed out from above. Immediately, the crowd saw a roughly one meter wide jade-like palm print exploding forth from the city lord Shi's hand. Thanks to that aggressive attack, explosive sounds began to emerge from the surrounding air.

As they saw this powerful attack, many people's faces began to change. City lord Shi did not show any mercy for this attack as this blow was enough to directly destroy a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner. It seems like a Creation stage practitioner is truly extraordinary.

However, this menacing blow that led many people's faces to change, did not prompt Lin Dong to retreat. Instead, a feverish glow exploded forth in his eyes, as a golden glow simmered on his palm. Then, under the bewilderment of the crowd, it directly

turned into a several meters long Yuan Power Golden Platform!

“Boom!”

That Golden Platform materialized, before it dashed forth and heavily slammed against that Jade Palm. Instantly, an extremely forceful Yuan Power shockwave exploded forth.

“Buzz!”

When that Golden Platform and the Jade Palm collided, Yuan Power violently gushed forth. However, Lin Dong’s footsteps suddenly moved forward. As he stepped on his blade shadow, he waved the Ancient Halberd in his hand before he directly ripped past that Yuan Power shockwave. With a shimmering golden glow, he then violently stabbed at that city lord Shi.

Ding! Ding!

When blade and halberd collided, an extremely bright spark exploded forth, as Yuan Power shockwaves continuously emerged. Even bystanders at a far distance away still felt their scalps turning numb.

The two of them crossed blows extremely rapidly. In a short period of time, they had crossed blow over a dozen times. Amidst this intensive bout, the Yuan Power in Lin Dong’s body was being fully utilized as a bright golden Yuan Power enwrapped his body. Faintly, one could even hear a deep thunder sound echoing forth.

That was Great Sun Thunder Yuan!

It must be said that the Great Sun Thunder Yuan that was refined by Great Sun Thunder Body is indeed several times more powerful than ordinary Yuan Power. In the past, if Lin Dong wanted to fight against a Creation stage practitioner, after a few bouts, he would begin to falter. However, right now, his attacks only grew in intensity as he fought on. With a feverish glint in his eyes, he waved his Ancient Halberd manically. His expression caused a look of awe to surface in city lord Shi's eyes. Evidently, he had never expected that Lin Dong, who was only at perfect Yuan Dan stage, could match up against him.

“Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd techniques, Fish Scales Halberd!”

Two shadows were battling in mid-air. Lin Dong suddenly switched his Halberd techniques, as his Yuan Power vibrations began to intensify. A bright golden glow directly materialized into a hideous-looking giant fish at the tip of his Halberd, before it dashed viciously towards Shi City Governor with a menacing aura.

When they saw Lin Dong's attack, a chorus erupted in Yan City. This was precisely the move that he used to defeat three perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners!

“Perfect Yuan Dan stage, yet you are able to materialize Yuan Power objects. Truly remarkable!” As he stared at that hideous-looking giant fish filled with a menacing aura, a solemn expression fled across city lord Shi's eyes. Promptly, he took two steps back, before he utilized the glow on his jade longsword, and

pushed his Yuan Power to the maximum. Then, gathering all his Yuan Power at the tip of his blade, he decisively hacked back!

“Buzz!”

When that jade longsword heavily slammed against that Yuan Power giant fish, the jade-like glow on the blade swirled by and directly split that giant fish apart. It seems like the full counterattack by a Creation stage expert is truly extraordinary.

“Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd techniques, Python Scales Halberd!”

After his attack was countered in one move, Lin Dong was not surprised at all. As he waved his Halberd, his Yuan Power began to gush forth manically. Then, as his Yuan Power grew increasingly vicious and formidable, it directly turned into a several meters long golden giant python at the tip of his Halberd!

As they stared at the life-like giant python that was being materialized by Yuan Power in mid-air and experienced that menacing Yuan Power vibrations emitted by it, everyone was once again shocked. None of them expected that this Yuan Power giant fish was in fact not Lin Dong’s strongest move!

This time, the expression in city lord Shi’s eyes turned increasingly solemn. He could sense just how vicious and maniacal that giant golden python was. Hence, he did not dare to underestimate it. As he switched his blade techniques, the jade-like glow on his blade began to gather together, until they eventually

turned into a layer of jade-like object. Faintly, one could feel an exceedingly formidable sword aura spreading out.

“Broken Jade Blade techniques!”

As they stared at that maniacal Yuan Power shockwaves in mid-air, nearby, Xia Wanjin and the rest’s facial expressions were replaced by a thick awe. After all, all of them knew that this Broken Jade Sword techniques was the most powerful martial arts that city lord Shi had. Hence, they were shocked to see that Lin Dong had actually forced him to use it!”

“Broken Jade Blade techniques, Great Jade Sword!”

A deep roar echoed out from city lord Shi. Suddenly, the speed at which he swung his jade blade began to slow down, before he gently hacked down and collided against the giant python.

“Bang!”

The instance that they collided, an astounding Yuan Power shockwave exploded in mid-air. In fact, some unlucky fellows near the ground was directly blown away by that shockwave. They seemed extremely hideous.

As he faced that exceeding forceful shockwave, Lin Dong was also blown back. After he heavily slammed his Ancient Halberd on the ground, he was finally able to stabilize his body, before he utilized secret art to control the raging blood inside his body.

“Indeed a Creation stage practitioner!”

As he looked at that Yuan Power giant python that was gradually dissipating, a feverish glint flashed across Lin Dong’s eyes. This was the most satisfying battle that he had thus far. With regards to his fight with Wang Yan, since the distance between the two of them were too huge, Lin Dong had been constantly under pressure and he could barely fight back with help from Symbol Puppet. However, right now, utilizing Great Sun Thunder Body and his Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd, he was able to match up against city lord Shi, who was at Creation stage!

“Haha, you are truly an impressive young man. Such a young age, yet you are so skilled already...”

As a feverish glow surfaced in Lin Dong’s eyes, city lord Shi began to laugh. His eyes were tightly peeled on the former, as the fighting intent in his eyes intensified. Meanwhile, the jade sword in his hand was being slowly lifted up.

“Lin Dong little brother, if you can receive this attack. Then, you shall be the victor!”

Hovering in mid-air, Lin Dong gently clutched onto his Ancient Halberd. Licking his lips, he stared right at city lord Shi as he saw a fighting intent in his eyes that did not lose out to his. Then, a heart stirring roar sounded out in mid-air!

“Please enlighten me!”

Chapter 199: Dragon Transformation

“Good!”

When he saw the fiery battle lust in Lin Dong’s eyes, city lord Shi could not help but let out a word of praise. Soon after, his expression slowly turned serious, as the clothes on his body started billowing although there was no wind. An exceedingly powerful Yuan Power undulation gushed forth like a tide and slowly spread outwards.

In face of this formidable Yuan Power undulation, the expressions of many people in Yan City changed. Some of the more quick-witted ones hurriedly made some distance, so as to avoid being injured by the aftershocks.

“This is...can it be possible that city lord Shi wants to use that move?” Xia Wanjin watched the scene in the sky while his expression suddenly changed a little as his alarmed voice sounded out.

“The most formidable move of the Great Jade Sword Style. It is said this move has already reached the upper class martial art level. Before city lord Shi had reached the From Creation stage, he relied on this move to kill two perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners with a single strike of his sword...” Grandmaster Yan’s expression also turned a little serious as he explained.

“Does father really intend to take Lin Dong’s life?!” Ziyue bit her teeth. She naturally understood how terrible her father’s strongest

technique was. If this technique was used, and if anything unexpected happened, blood would definitely flow!

“That might not be so...didn’t you see that city lord Shi was unable to defeat Lin Dong even after using the Great Jade Sword Style...moreover, this kid is not one to recklessly put up a false brave front. Since he dared to respond, he would at least be certain of surviving.” Grandmaster Yan muttered to himself for a while, before he shook his head and said.

However, although he said that, he inevitably felt somewhat nervous in his heart. After all, he had personally witnessed the might of city lord Shi’s move before...

While they were discussing, Lin Dong’s expression likewise gradually turned serious. He was also able to feel that powerful Yuan Power within city lord Shi’s body and he sensed that the latter’s next move would definitely be earth-shattering.

The ancient halberd in his hand slanted towards the ground, as Lin Dong suddenly slowly spat out a ball of white Qi. The Yuan Dan within his Dantian slightly shuddered, as all the golden Great Sun Thunder Yuan whizzed out, before pouring into the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd.

“Buzz!”

As the tremendous Yuan Power poured in, the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd immediately emitted golden rays of light. Faintly, the low sound of thunder rumbled out.

“Boom!”

As the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd glowed brightly, an intense light also erupted from the Great Jade Sword in city lord Shi’s hands. An extremely vigorous Yuan Power undulated on the blade and swiftly gathered at its tip. In a split second, the body of the Great Jade Sword turned dim, while a fist-sized and extremely resplendent ball of light appeared at the tip of the blade.

This ball of light was filled with a terrifying and formidable undulation, as if all of the Yuan Power in city lord Shi’s body was concentrated within it.

The ball of light trembled, emitting ripples of Yuan Power undulation, which caused the Yuan Power surrounding city lord Shi to grow a little restless...

“Great Jade Sword Style, burn jade and stone!”

When the ball of light appeared, city lord Shi’s arm seemed as if it was somewhat unable to contain the immense power within, as it trembled a little. In the next instant, his expression suddenly turned solemn, as a shout rumbled loudly in the air like thunder.

“Bang!”

As his shout rang out, the ball of light on the Great Jade Sword’s tip suddenly swept out like thunder, meanwhile, city lord Shi’s

aura fell greatly, such that even the glow on the Great Jade Sword dimmed substantially. This strike seemed to have used up all of his power.

However, although this strike was extremely taxing, its might was clearly overwhelming. The ball of light was not large, yet, as it flew through the sky, the air seemed to explode around it, causing some of the tall buildings below to be directly blown to pieces. This power greatly alarmed quite a number of people, if such an attack were to fall in their midst, it would be a massacre...

The ball of light left behind a trail of light as it swept across the horizon, as if the sky itself had been ripped apart!

As the light ray swept forth, Lin Dong's eyelids violently twitched several times. This move by city lord Shi was indeed exceptionally astonishing!

His twitching eyelids gradually regained its calm, as Lin Dong tightly gripped onto the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd which was emitting a golden glow. The halberd's body suddenly shuddered, as the fine scales which covered it slightly erected, like a dragon which had just awoken!

“Boom!”

Rays of golden light suddenly shot out from the ancient halberd, as Lin Dong's foot stamped off the sword, and his body swept forward under numerous shocked gazes. His target was the ray of light which contained an extremely strong Yuan Power!

Upon seeing that Lin Dong did not try to dodge but instead took the initiative to face the attack head on, shocked cries erupted from the entire Yan City, and quite a few people believed that the former had gone insane...

“This...” Nearby, grandmaster Yan and the rest were also frightened by Lin Dong’s action. Even a Form Creation practitioner would have to avoid this attack, yet, Lin Dong actually dared to charge forward...

The three of them looked at each other, clearly unable to understand why the usually cool-headed Lin Dong would act this way. Could it be that he truly had the means to face city lord Shi’s formidable attack head on?

“Roar!”

While everyone was whispering about Lin Dong’s seemingly impulsive actions, a peculiar roar suddenly sounded out across the skies. Quickly, the crowd saw the ancient halberd in Lin Dong’s hands emit an extremely eye-piercing golden light. The golden light gathered on the ancient halberd and seemed to transform into an enormous dragon!

The dragon image soared high in the skies, as it gave off an extremely tyrannical aura. It almost felt as if a terrible dragon had truly appeared!

This sudden change immediately caused the whispers to stop.

Only now did they finally understand that Lin Dong was not reckless, but instead genuinely had the means to contend!

“Heavenly Scales Halberd technique, transform into the dragon halberd!”

A cold shout suddenly rang out in the skies, as the golden dragon image wrapped around that figure, bringing gusts of wind and lightning with it as it swept formidably across the horizons!

“Boom!”

Under those countless nervous gazes, the golden dragon image and the ray of light, that had been condensed to the limit, collided. In an instant, a frightening Yuan Power storm erupted in the sky, as resplendent golden rays filled the horizon...

The Yuan Power ripples swept down from the sky, oppressing several people below, making it difficult for them to lift their heads while some of the weaker ones were barely able to breathe, as horror filled their faces. This was only the weakest waves, if their bodies were struck directly, would there even be any ashes left?

“Such a powerful attack!”

Filled with astonishment, grandmaster Yan, Xia Wanjin and the rest slightly narrowed their eyes, as they watched the skies. The golden dragon image caused them to feel a heart palpitating aura. They knew that if they were attacked by this move, they would be

killed instantly!

“Rumble rumble!”

Resplendent golden rays poured down from the skies, as a clap of thunder sounded out. A tiny cracking sound quietly rang out, as the crowd suddenly saw a golden light rip through the horizon at an unimaginable speed. In a flash, it appeared behind the city walls.

The battle was concluded surprisingly quick. Just as the golden light lit up the skies, it suddenly dimmed slowly, before finally dissipating, while the golden dragon image also quietly faded...

As they gazed at the suddenly quiet skies, countless gazes instantly looked towards Lin Dong, who had appeared on the city walls, and city lord Shi, who was a distance behind.

“Who won?”

Gazing at the two figures, urgent voices swiftly sounded out in the city. The golden light from before was too resplendent, and they were unable to clearly see who had won and lost.

“Hehe, I did not expect that such a young and outstanding talent would appear in my Yan City. I am sure that my young friend Lin Dong will definitely stand among the ranks of the finest practitioners in the Great Yan Empire in less than five years. This time, I have lost!” City lord Shi’s body slowly landed on the city

walls. He looked at the now dull Great Jade Sword in his hand and a strand of hair on his shoulder, as he softly sighed.

He knew that Lin Dong's previous attack was astonishingly powerful. Even he found it difficult to withstand it.

“City lord Shi has actually lost!”

City lord Shi's words were undoubtedly like a bomb, causing the entire Yan City to instantaneously erupt in an uproar. One by one, gazes unfathomably gazed towards the back of the young figure. They felt admiration when Lin Dong defeated Yue Shan, yet, they did not feel truly shocked, but now...

Their original gasps of admiration had no choice but to start changing. Being able to match up to a Form Creation stage practitioner at such a young age, how dreadful would he be in future?

Many people looked at each other, as they began to understand exactly how terrifying an existence this Lin Dong from the Lin Family was. While such a person was alive, who would dare to have any ill thoughts about the Lin Family?

“City lord Shi is too modest, I currently have no strength left to battle.”

Lin Dong chuckled, and with a flick of his hand, he kept the ancient halberd into his Qiankun bag. His figure directly leapt off

the tall city walls, as a red shadow dashed over for him to mount. Together, they swiftly dashed away.

“Heh heh, city lord Shi, I’m sure we’ll meet again some day!”

As the fiery shadow faded into the distance, a faint chuckle sounded out from afar, causing those were still submerged in that intense exchange from before to be awoken from their stupor. They gazed towards the vague and free-spirited figure in the distance, as admiration and respect surfaced in their hearts.

Atop the city walls, city lord Shi gazed at the spot where Lin Dong had disappeared, as a bitter smile appeared from the corners of his mouth. The previous blow had consumed all of Lin Dong’s power, but, wasn’t he in the same situation himself?

This time, it was at best a draw...

“I really want to find out what kind of unparalleled person he will become when he returns to Yan City again...”

Chapter 200: Training Journey in the Forest

In the dense forests, a fiery shadow swept forth. Soon after, the figure on its back waved his hand downwards, as they slowly came to a stop.

“Cough.”

After Little Flame had stopped, a pale color spread across Lin Dong’s face, causing him to let out a light cough. He quickly took out ten Pure Yuan pills and consumed them. When he felt his body gradually recover some Yuan Power, he quietly sighed in relief.

“That final move by city lord Shi is truly formidable.”

Lin Dong mumbled to himself. Previously, he had been forced to utilise the dragon transformation halberd of the Ancient Heavenly Scales Halberd technique. With his current strength, he was barely able to use this move, however, its might was excellent. Even so, he was still able to withstand city lord Shi’s astonishing attack. The present given by that Nirvana stage elite was truly extraordinary.

“Although they are both at the Form Creation stage, city lord Shi is quite a bit weaker than Wang Yan.”

While recovering the Yuan Power in his body, Lin Dong’s eyebrows slightly furrowed. When he exchanged blows with Wang Yan, he was practically always at a disadvantageous position. In the end, if it was not for the latter’s negligence and the aid of the

Symbol Puppet, Lin Dong could not have possibly injured the latter. Yet, he had been able to rely on his own power to battle against the Form Creation stage city lord Shi today.

“The Creation stages are likewise divided into different ranks. However, these ranks are not as complicated as the Yuan Dan stage, and are only split into initial and advanced masteries. However, although there are only two levels, the difference between them is rather huge.”

Little Marten appeared on Lin Dong's shoulder and casually said: “That person from before was at best initial Form Creation stage, while Wang Yan had already reached the advanced mastery stage. From there, making a breakthrough to the Qi Creation stage is only a matter of time. Additionally, Wang Yan's Secret Art, martial arts and weapon etc. are much stronger than city lord Shi's. The fact that you were not his match is only logical.”

“Initial and advanced mastery...”

Upon hearing this, Lin Dong suddenly had a flash of understanding. No wonder he felt that there was quite a big difference between the two. It turns out that this Form Creation stage was split into different levels. As for Little Marten's last few words, he ignored them as usual.

“Kid, what do you plan to do now?” Little Marten sat down on Lin Dong's shoulder as it lazily asked.

Lin Dong was silent for a while, before he said: “Let's go to the

Great Desolate Province first. The journey will not be short, and we will have to pass through several huge cities and mountains along the way. However, that is good as well. There are a great number of sects in the Great Desolate Province, and as many practitioners as the clouds in the sky; an extremely dangerous and chaotic place. If I can advance to the Form Creation stage or the fourth seal Symbol Master en route, the chances of obtaining the ‘Ancestral Symbol’ will be greater when we reach our destination.”

“Okay, it would also be best to master the first layer of the Bronze Thunder Body. At that time, you will be able to manage even if you meet an advanced Form Creation stage opponent.” Little Marten laughed and said.

“That will not be so easy...” Lin Dong softly sighed. He had already used up a lot of time to open the remaining channels and as for mastering the ‘Bronze Thunder Body’, he needed to draw lightning in order to temper his body. This step was rather dangerous and the slightest negligence would cause one to be struck dead by lightning. At that time, you could not voice out any of your grievances even if you wanted to.

“Let’s take it step by step...” Little Marten spread out its claws. There was no other way, the power of the Bronze Thunder Body was rather substantial and mastering it would naturally not be that easy.

Upon hearing that Little Marten did not have any constructive suggestions, Lin Dong could only helplessly shake his head, as he took out the map and tried to identify their location. He then lightly patted the tiger’s back, as Little Flame let out a roar before

dashing into the dense forests like an arrow.

.....

Lin Dong's final destination, the Great Desolate Province, practically covered half the Great Yan Empire, and this distance was at least ten thousand miles. Even if Lin Dong had Little Flame as a means of transportation, it would take several months to reach, not including the numerous cities along the way...

After Lin Dong discussed with Little Marten, they decided not to take the main road or to enter any cities during this trip for the sake of not drawing any trouble to themselves. Instead, they would directly pass through the forests. Although Demonic Beasts run amok in these places, and it could not be considered very safe, compared to humans, these Demonic Beasts were evidently less complicated. Moreover, while journeying through the forests, Lin Dong could not only search for treasures and herbs, but he could also hunt Demonic Beasts as a form of training, and regard this part of the trip as actual combat training...

...

“Roar!”

A furious roar sounded out among the numerous towering trees in the forest. Soon after, a huge and smelly figure charged out of the forest, snapping several huge trees along its path. As this huge beast charged out, one could see that its body was covered with numerous vicious wounds, from which streams of blood gushed

out. In the end, after struggling for some distance, it fell to the ground with a loud boom.

As this huge beast fell, a figure dashed out from the forest, and landed on the huge corpse with a smile on his face.

“Hss!”

The figure was bare-bodied, revealing some faint criss crossing scars. This body did not have humongous eye-piercing muscles, but when it stretched, it seemed as if an explosive power was under that taunt skin, causing one to feel a sense of danger.

This figure was naturally Lin Dong. Ever since he had left Yan City, he had spent almost half a month travelling through the dense woods. Over this period, he had spent the night in the open and fought to the death against countless Demonic Beasts. He spent practically everyday experiencing several difficult and desperate battles.

For example, this Devil Alligator Leopard was a violent Demonic Beast whose strength surpassed most perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioners. Together with its innate speed and power, even an initial Form Creation stage practitioner would find it troublesome to deal with one. Lin Dong had tangled with it for almost half a day before he finally whittled it to death.

Everyday, he had gone through this kind of cruel life or death struggle. Over this half a month, Lin Dong had evidently changed quite a lot. Although his smiling face still looked gentle and

determined, when his eyebrows furrowed, a frightening and terrible aura would linger around him.

It was as if a dangerous being was hidden under that gentle face, and whenever someone would plan to do harm to him, he would immediately bare his sinister fangs.

“Tch!”

Lin Dong’s hands were wrapped in golden Yuan Power, before he entered the Devil Alligator Leopard through its softest part and grabbed a bloody Demonic Crystal. Then, he let out a whistle towards the forest.

As the whistle echoed out, a fiery shadow that reeked of blood dashed out, revealing itself to be Little Flame. Currently, it had a Demonic Beast in its huge mouth, but from the looks of it, it was already dead.

Casually tossing the Demonic Crystal in his hand to Little Flame, Lin Dong softly chuckled as he saw the latter’s happy appearance. Over this period of time, Little Flame had similarly experienced all kinds of killings and battles, and during this time, its strength had also rapidly grown. Lin Dong could sense that the Demonic Spirits gulped down by Little Flame in the old tomb were swiftly being refined, resulting in Little Flame’s aura growing increasingly dangerous. According to Lin Dong’s calculations, the current Little Flame was able to effortlessly deal with even a perfect Yuan Dan stage practitioner.

“I’ve already opened twenty of the Great Sun Thunder Body’s channels. There are only about half left before I completely unblock all of them.” While he sat and rested, Lin Dong sensed the Great Sun Thunder Yuan within his body was growing increasingly vigorous as each inner channel was unlocked. However, towards the end, the difficulty of unlocking the remaining channels increased. He had no idea when he would be able to fully unlock all the remaining twenty four channels.

“It’s still not bad...” On Lin Dong’s shoulder, Little Marten stretched out its claws as he lazily said.

“When will you recover your Creation stage strength?” Lin Dong glanced at this fellow, who always seemed to be free, as he somewhat helplessly asked.

Upon hearing this, Little Marten’s claws went rigid. With traces of shame and anger in his voice, he said: “Make sure you take care of your own cultivation, what is a mere Creation stage in this grandfather marten’s eyes? As long as grandfather marten feels like it, I can reach it any time!”

Lin Dong rolled his eyes, as he was too lazy to bother with this guy who had his sore spot touched. After resting for a while, he stood up and waved towards Little Marten as he prepared to continue on his journey.

“Wait!”

Just as Lin Dong was planning to move out with Little Flame,

Little Marten suddenly voiced out.

“What is it?” Lin Dong was taken aback, puzzled as he looked towards Little Marten, only to find that the latter had lifted its head to gaze at the sky, as a light flickered in its eyes.

“Heh, kid, you’re lucky. There’s thunder...” Little Marten strangely laughed as it said.

“Thunder?”

Lin Dong was once again stunned. He lifted his head and gazed at the suddenly darkening skies, as faint sounds of thunder rumbled forth.

“If you want to master the Bronze Thunder Body, drawing lightning to temper your body is a necessary step. Moreover, if you are successful, you can make use of the power of lightning to increase the chances of unlocking those remaining inner channels.”

“Boom!”

Just as Little Marten’s words sounded out, a thunderclap rang out in the skies. A silvery light flashed past and Lin Dong watched as a huge tree in the distance was turned into ashes.

“This...”

As stared at the smoking remains of the destroyed tree, sweat suddenly appeared on Lin Dong's forehead. He swallowed, forcing a smile as he said: "I think... there should be no need for this right?"

Purposely getting struck by lightning...such a thing...was not something any normal person would do.

"Hai, why cower so much, don't even talk about getting Ling Qingzhu or defeating Lin Langtian, from what I can see, you can't even compare to Wang Yan..." Little Marten ruffled its ears as it lazily said.

"Stop provoking me!"

Lin Dong glared daggers at Little Marten, before spitting out a mouthful of saliva. A fierce look surfaced on his face, as he took big strides towards the nearest mountain peak.

"God dammit, who's afraid. Go ahead and strike me to death if you have the guts!"

As gazed at Lin Dong's furious appearance, Little Marten beamed as he nodded his head. Right now, he seemed especially crafty and sly.